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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 112

WEDNESDAY MAY 12, 2010

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OPINION METER

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I N S I D E



'Guiding Force'

Obama introduces his High Court nominee to the nation, Elena Kagan.

NATION...Page 15



Resignation

British PPM Gordon Brown makes a dramatic bid to keep his party in power.

WORLD...Page 17



'Last Song'

Saipan Southern High School students read the book and watched the movie *The Last Song*.

CAMPUS LIFE...Page 18

House rejects Interior recommendations

Substitute joint resolution asks Congress to direct consultation with NMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

On a 17-0 vote, the House of Representatives adopted yesterday a joint resolution "strongly opposing" a U.S. Department of the Interior report that proposes long-term federal immigration status for alien workers who have been legally residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

The options include granting long-term alien workers permanent residency status, U.S. citizenship or a status similar to those granted to citizens of the Freely Associated States.

House lawmakers took turns yesterday expressing
See HOUSE on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

Unity motorcade organizers seek int'l media coverage.
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Fitial in Japan waiting for meeting with Hatoyama

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Fitial

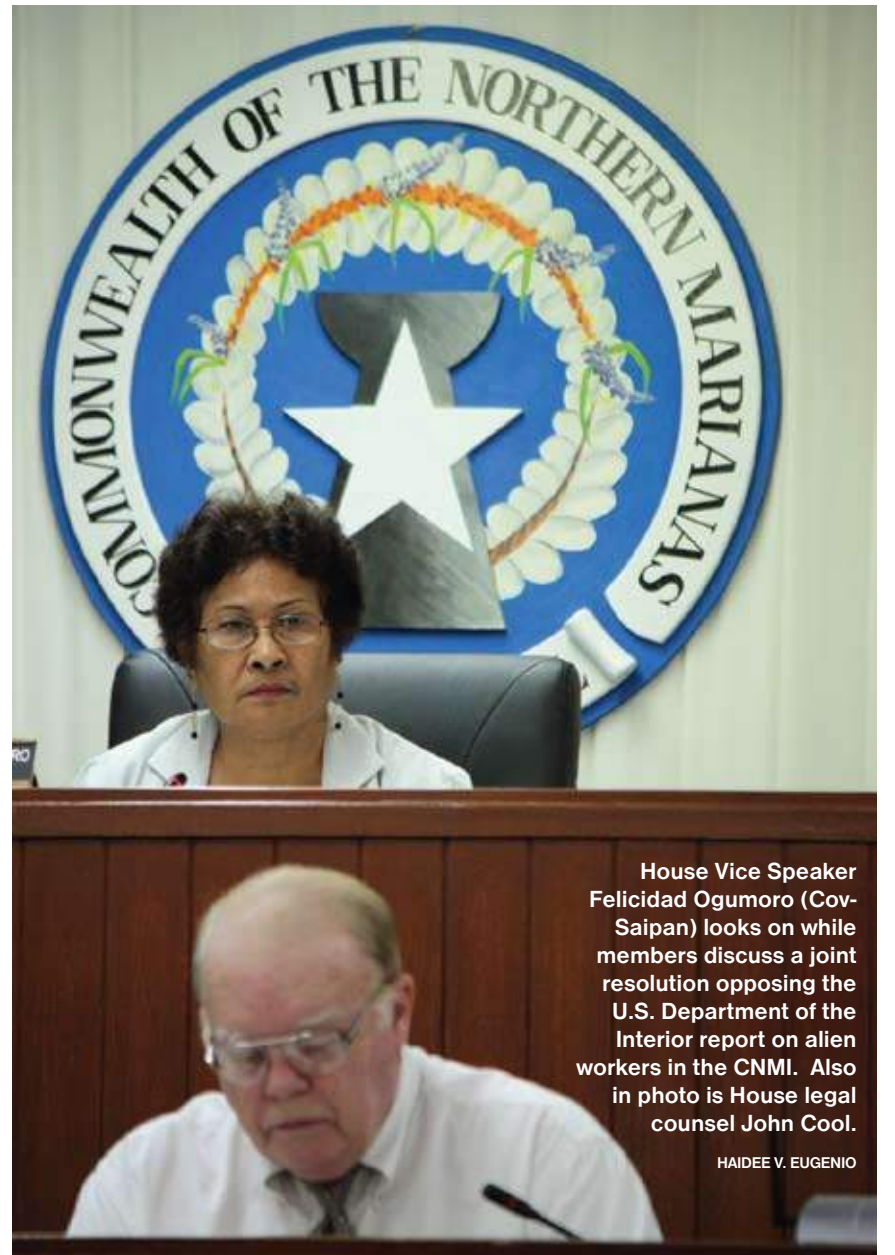
Gov. Benigno R. Fitial left for Tokyo on Sunday for a medical emergency in the family, but he will be staying there until after a possible meeting with Japan Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama on Thursday, to discuss issues surrounding the possible relocation of up to 4,000 American troops from the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station at Futenma in Okinawa to Tinian.

Fitial will be joined in Japan by Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho, who is set to leave Guam today.

Camacho came to Saipan on Saturday to meet with six visiting lawmakers of Hatoyama's Democratic Party of Japan.

The members of the Japanese Diet invited Fitial and Camacho to Tokyo this week, for a possible meeting with Hatoyama, who ran for office with a promise to move U.S. troops from Futenma to Tinian.

See FITIAL on Page 4



House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) looks on while members discuss a joint resolution opposing the U.S. Department of the Interior report on alien workers in the CNMI. Also in photo is House legal counsel John Cool.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Manual counting of overseas absentee ballots in the CNMI began Monday midnight at the ground floor of the Marianas Business Plaza.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



Aquino-Roxas tandem poised for landslide win

Manual counting of votes still ongoing as of 7pm last night

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The manual counting of the Filipino overseas absentee ballots was still ongoing as of 7pm last night at the Philippine Consulate

RELATED NEWS

Aquino opens up commanding lead in RP vote.
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General, but Liberal Party's standard bearer Benigno "Noy" Aquino III and his running mate Mar Roxas were poised for a landslide win based on partial unofficial results.

See FITIAL on Page 4

Pohnpei election in NMI posts lowest turnout. **PAGE 6**
Man nabbed for alleged sex abuse of two minors. **PAGE 8**

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Local

Unity motorcade organizers seek int'l media coverage

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Organizers of this Sunday's motorcade are planning to invite the international media to cover the event, in the expectation that it will draw thousands of supporters for the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendations to grant improved immigration status to long-term alien workers in the CNMI.

The 20-strong Saipan City Taxi Association has already affirmed its participation in the

motorcade, while the Dekada Movement led by Boni Sagana and several other alien workers' associations have also vowed to join.

United Workers Movement-CNMI president Rabby Syed told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the motorcade is a big event that needs the attention of the U.S. Congress and the international community.

Syed said they are in the process of sending invitations to CNN News, BBC News, Radio New Zealand, and other international media entities.

"We want to bring this matter to the international media, and we are asking for their support," Syed said.

He said many businesses are encouraging their employees to participate in the motorcade.

Former lawmaker Tina Sablan, attorneys Jane Mack and Stephen Woodruff, and Sr. Stella Mangona, along with Syed and organizers will lead the motorcade from Kilili Beach to the American Memorial Park at 2pm.

All participants are asked to wear white and encouraged to

bring signs and banners showing their support for improved immigration status.

In a statement issued yesterday, organizers said the purpose of the "Unity Movement Motorcade and Assembly" is to show support for Interior's recommendations and to urge Congress to act quickly on the recommendations.

Woodruff said the motorcade and assembly will be about addressing a major and lingering issue in the CNMI so that all the people can move forward together.

"The task before us now is to embrace and extend the Department of the Interior's recommendations to integrate and unify the community, stabilize the workforce and consumer base, and lay the foundation for our economic revival," Woodruff said.

Organizers said the program will include inspirational messages, cultural entertainment, and the launching of several petitions that will showcase community-wide support for long-term status for guest workers, including support from local businesses, faith-based organizations, and residents across the CNMI, including Tinian and Rota.

Sample letters and addresses of members of Congress will also be distributed.

Unity Movement supporter Malou Berueco said that thousands joined the historic Unity March in 2007 to call for the passage of federal immigration law for the CNMI and improved status for guest

workers.

Almost three years later, Berueco said, federal immigration law now applies to the CNMI, and the Secretary of Interior has recommended improved status.

"Now it is up to Congress to act on those recommendations. We appeal to them to act quickly, and we respectfully ask the entire community to join us in these efforts," she said.

Businesses or individuals interested in making in-kind donations of water, trash bags, banners, placards, paint supplies, printing and copying services (for letters and petitions), and other materials may contact Ronnie Doca at 285-9255 or Yho Villavicencio at 285-8769.

Human rights advocate Wendy Doromal earlier asked the local community to embrace long-term foreign workers, who labored to build the CNMI, on an equal level.

Doromal said she believes that members of Congress will pass legislation to grant green cards with a direct pathway to U.S. citizenship, or grant outright U.S. citizenship to legal foreign workers who have lived and worked in the CNMI for five years or longer.

"Many of you have lived longer in the CNMI than some of the islands' voters have, and still you cannot vote. Many of you have U.S. citizen children that serve in the United States Armed Forces, but you cannot even visit the U.S. mainland," she said.

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COE: No more 'pink slips' for teachers, employees

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From now on, no public schools will be issuing mass "pink slips" to personnel to avoid creating a "climate of fear" among educators and employees.

This was the strong message of Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan in the wake of what happened at Saipan Southern High School last week, when principal Craig Garrison issued 90-day termination notices to 54 teachers and personnel due to lack of funds for the school.

Sablan admitted that the mass issuance of termination notices was not fully supported by the system, hence the recommendation of top education officials for Garrison to immediately address the matter.

"No more pink slips will be implemented to any of our schools. If any administration wishes not to renew an employee or teacher, they have to take into account the procedure in the issuance of this [notice],"

she said yesterday.

Sablan said she immediately talked to the personnel of SSSH and assured them of their jobs.

Garrison, just a day after issuing the termination notice, served 50 renewal letters to his personnel.

"Certainly, I didn't agree... because it didn't follow the proper procedure. So I went down to the school and assured our teachers that there's no reason to fear," she said.



Sablan

She advised employees whose contracts are not renewed to first approach their respective principals and address the concern if it deals with their performance.

"Because the intent is the financial issues of PSS, we are working closely with the Legislature so they can identify sources of funding. There's no reason for our teachers to pack up now and leave because we're addressing the financial concerns," she assured.

Sablan emphasized that PSS needs to hire teachers continu-

ously for its growing population. PSS oversees 20 public schools on three islands.

To date PSS has 565 teachers mentoring nearly 11,000 students.

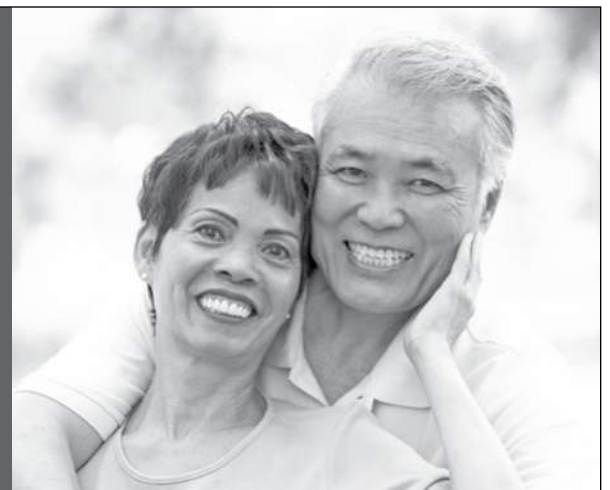
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TOYOTA

'Master list' of all locals seeking jobs or on training sought

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Former House floor leader Joseph N. Camacho asked House members yesterday to introduce a bill that will compile a "master list" of all local U.S. citizens seeking jobs, currently on training for jobs, or currently

studying for eventual jobs in either the government or the private sector.

"I humbly ask for a simple bill for this master list," said Camacho, who is running as CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives under the ruling Covenant Party.

Camacho, who was at the House session along with CNMI Labor Deputy Secretary Cinta Kaipat, said coming up with such a bill is of great importance, considering that the federalization law will zero out the guest worker population by 2014.

Most of the private sector jobs

in the CNMI are held by some 20,000 foreign workers.

He said the bill would ask for a listing from the CNMI Department of Labor, the Office of Personnel Management, Workforce Investment Agency, Scholarship Office, Northern Marianas College and all high schools.

"This is so we know how many are looking for jobs," he said, adding that the list would also include those who had moved to Guam or other places to look for jobs.

Camacho cited, for example, the Department of Public Works. If an engineering position at DPW opens up, a local

worker or a student currently studying engineering may write a simple letter to DPW asking the department to consider his application.

Camacho, an attorney, was the only member of the public who stood up for public comment during the House session yesterday afternoon.

HOUSE

From Page 1

their concerns about the 20-page Interior report, which they described as "erroneous," "incomplete," and "done without consultation" with the CNMI government.

House members said granting permanent residency or U.S. citizenship to long-term alien workers and their families who are already in the CNMI will lead to an alien "takeover" of the indigenous population—from jobs to political power and even land ownership.

"They [Interior] failed to get proper input from us, in violation of Public Law 110-229," said Rep. Frederick P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), who co-authored the joint resolution with Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan).

Deleon Guerrero said, "It seems the federal government has its own agenda and plans to make its own decision."

"Either we stand up and fight for our concerns or we can just relax. I, for one, would stand up and fight as peaceful[ly] as possible... This is a slap in the face," he told his colleagues.

Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said if there are some 16,000 long-term alien workers in the CNMI and each worker has an average number of three other family members, then there will be "close to 70,000 new permanent residents or

U.S. citizens... who will eventually take over CNMI."

"They will introduce [an] initiative to get rid of Article 12 so that everyone will be able to own lands in the CNMI whether through homesteading or [other means]. ... I'm very concerned," Dela Cruz said.

He said nobody knows what Congress will do.

Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) raised concerns about "giving entitlement to a mass number of people," because of its negative effect on the already small indigenous population.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) said while the CNMI recognizes the contributions of foreign workers in building the CNMI economy, it was and has never been intended to grant these alien workers U.S. citizenship.

"We are going to be displaced in our homeland. ... [Interior] should bear that in mind," said Conner.

He also noted that the CNMI had been chastised and covered by international media for its handling of its guest workers.

"Just because we made mistakes in the past with respect to foreign workers doesn't give them the right to displace us in our own homes, our own homeland. I, too, support this resolution," said Conner.

No consultation, impact study

The joint resolution said Interior "drafted, finalized and submitted" the report to Congress

without consulting with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, as required by P.L. 110-229 or the federalization law.

But Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, during his presentation of the report to the CNMI government on April 30, said Interior held lots of consultations and meetings on the matter, both in the CNMI and Washington, D.C.

The House joint resolution said Interior did not make a complete and thorough impact assessment on the recommendations' effects on the Commonwealth economy, society, politics, and culture.

The resolution also said that the report fails to discuss the negative consequences of the Interior recommendations, including, among other things, the food stamp program, Section 8 housing benefits, loss of employment opportunities for resident U.S. citizens, increase in unemployment of resident U.S. citizens, and the increase in medical care costs for the CNMI government.

In the resolution, House members asked Congress to direct Interior to consult the CNMI governor, as mandated by P.L. 110-229.

The House also requested Congress to direct Interior to collaborate with the CNMI governor in preparing and submitting to Congress a report that includes the CNMI government's position and recommendations as to the future

status of the alien worker population on the islands.

Among other things, local lawmakers and other members of the local community do not want Congress to confer U.S. citizenship to nonresidents by virtue of their long stay in the CNMI.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial earlier said the joint resolution will serve as the CNMI government's unified position on the Interior report. Fitial will be in Washington, D.C. to attend a May 18 congressional oversight hearing on CNMI issues.

Some members of Fitial's week-old working group on the Interior report have also been looking at raising the five-year threshold for the minimum stay of alien workers to be granted improved status—to eight, 10 or 15 years.

Substitute version

Demapan and Deleon Guerrero offered a last-minute substitute measure to their original 10-page joint resolution.

HJR 17-4, HS1, which only has five pages and six other cosponsors, removes the original provision calling for Section 902 talks to formalize the report.

Section 902 of the CNMI's Covenant with the U.S. allows for periodic consultations between the Commonwealth and federal governments "on all matters affecting the relationship between them."

Nobody from the community voiced opposition or support for the House resolution

during the House session yesterday afternoon.

House Vice Speaker Felicidad T. Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), who presided over the session because House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) was not feeling well, said she received a written testimony from former Rep. Tina Sablan asking for a public hearing on HJR 17-4.

The House, however, voted on the resolution.

Besides Tenorio, two other House members were excused from the session: House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) and Rep. Raymond Palacios (Cov-Saipan).

All 17 of 20 members present voted "yes" on the joint resolution around 4:30pm.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan) said the CNMI "can no longer ignore the issue" of immigration.

The Senate is expected to act favorably on the joint resolution today. The Senate postponed its meeting yesterday, and rescheduled it for this afternoon.

Copies of the resolution, once concurred by the Senate, will be transmitted to U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chair Nick J. Rahall II; Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, who chairs the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife; Interior Secretary Ken Salazar; Assistant Interior Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta; CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan; members of Con-

gress; and Fitial.

'Yes to improved status motorcade'

While the CNMI government has been working on its unified position on the Interior report, guest worker groups and their supporters have also been preparing for a motorcade and assembly on May 16.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said yesterday that worker groups respect the position taken by the CNMI House of Representatives, as well as the Fitial administration, on the Interior report and recommendation.

But he said it is now up to Congress to act on the Interior recommendation.

Syed said worker groups are asking Congress to act quickly on the recommendation, and grant improved immigration status to alien workers in the CNMI.

On Sunday, May 16, the United Workers Movement-NMI and other worker groups who took part in the historic "unity march" two years ago will hold a motorcade and assembly "to show support for...Interior's recommendations...and to urge U.S. Congress to act quickly on the recommendations."

The "Unity Movement Motorcade and Assembly" will begin at Kilili Beach in Susupe at 2pm, and end at the American Memorial Park in Garapan at 5pm.

**The joint resolution is House Joint Resolution 17-4, HS1.*

FITIAL

From Page 1

tenma.

Hatoyama was quoted by *Stars and Stripes* yesterday as giving up on his self-imposed May 31 deadline for getting approval from the U.S. and local governments on an alternate plan to move Marine air operations from Ginowan.

Press secretary Angel De-

mapan said the administration was still waiting as of yesterday afternoon for confirmation from the Japanese government on a meeting with Hatoyama.

"Governor Fitial is prepared to meet the prime minister once confirmed," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

After a possible meeting with Hatoyama, Fitial will return to Saipan and prepare for another trip—this time to Washington,

D.C. where he will testify at a congressional oversight hearing on the CNMI federalization issues on May 18.

Should the meeting with Hatoyama move forward, it will be the first time a CNMI governor will have an official meeting with a Japanese prime minister.

Fitial and Camacho made it clear to the visiting Japanese lawmakers Saturday that any decision to accept or reject

the relocation of troops to the CNMI or Guam rests with the U.S. government.

But they said they welcome troop relocation to Guam and the CNMI, provided both territories are consulted and given financial assistance to pay for the relocation costs and to pay for the impacts on infrastructure such as power, water, roads, hospitals, schools, public safety impacts, as well as impacts on

the environment.

The Japanese lawmakers who visited Saipan and Tinian have been brokering the meeting between the Marianas governors and Hatoyama, hoping such a meeting will "accelerate" or bolster plans to renegotiate the 2006 accord between Japan and the U.S.

Under that accord, the Futenma base will be transferred by 2014 to a coastal area of Camp Schwab on land that would be

reclaimed.

But Hatoyama, who was elected Japan prime minister last year, campaigned on the promise to review the Futenma relocation agreement. The U.S. government is sticking to the 2006 accord, saying it is the only viable option that would both reduce U.S. military presence of U.S. forces on Okinawa and maintain security in the Asia-Pacific region.

AQUINO

From Page 1

Voting closed at 9pm Monday, but the actual counting began past 12am Tuesday at the Philippine Overseas Labor Office's Filipino Workers Resource Center at the ground floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

The counting was simultaneously done in eight separate tables. Philippine Consul

General Medardo Macaraig said he expects the counting to be done before midnight last night.

When the counting kicked off early Monday morning, Aquino and Roxas slowly began widening their lead over their respective rivals.

The trend was still holding by 12pm Tuesday, with Aquino ahead by a large margin over his closest rivals—the Arroyo administration's presidential bet, Gilberto "Gibo"

Teodoro Jr., Nacionalista Party's Manuel Villar, and Partido Ng Masang Pilipino's Joseph Estrada.

In the vice presidency race, Roxas further widened his lead over his closest rival, Jejomar Binay, by Tuesday afternoon.

There are 7,169 registered Filipino voters in the CNMI but the number of actual voters is much lower as many workers have already left the CNMI.

A total of 3,341 accomplished ballots were turned in at the

Consulate General.

An exit poll conducted by Saipan Tribune on Sunday showed Aquino and Roxas leading the race among overseas absentee voters in the CNMI.

As of 6pm yesterday, three rivals have already conceded defeat and congratulated Aquino, who seemed headed for a landslide victory.

Aquino—whose father was assassinated while opposing Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship and whose mother led the 1986 "peo-

ple power" revolt that restored democracy—was leading the nine-candidate presidential race with 40.19 percent of the votes from about 78 percent of the precincts, while his closest rival, Estrada, had 25.46 percent.

Aquino was considered the favorite to win the election, in which some other leading candidates carried the taint of scandal. The popularity ratings of Villar, a real estate developer-turned-politician who was neck-and-neck with Aquino in early

surveys, plunged after rivals accused him of using his position to enrich himself and avoiding a Senate ethics probe.

Villar conceded defeat Tuesday.

Estrada jumped to overtake Villar as No. 2. The former action movie star was removed from office in 2001 and subsequently convicted on corruption charges. He was later pardoned by Arroyo, and he said he decided to run again to clear his name. *(With AP)*

TOP CHALLENGES FOR PSS

Teacher shortage, high number of students with diabetes symptoms

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The short supply of highly qualified teachers and an alarming number of students exhibiting diabetes symptoms are among the biggest challenges facing the Commonwealth's Public School System, according to the islands' top education official.

In addition, PSS is concerned about the continuous lack of a universal preschool program, while the diversity of public school populations are having a direct impact on overall student performances, said Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

In a presentation before members of the Saipan Rotary Club yesterday, Sablan admitted that PSS lack highly qualified teachers in both regular education and special education programs.

This school year, PSS has 565 teachers handling nearly 11,000 students from kindergarten to 12th grade on three islands. She said this number is not enough to accommodate the needs of all enrollees.

Under the federal mandate of the No Child Left Behind Act, PSS is required to have 100 percent highly qualified classrooms personnel by July 2011. To date, about 27 percent of public school teachers in the CNMI have yet to comply with the HQT standards. Among school administrators, 20 percent are still awaiting certifications to become highly qualified.

The Board of Education has set three requirements for teachers to be deemed highly qualified: a degree, valid teaching certificates, and passing two Praxis tests.

Diabetes symptoms

Sablan also disclosed that a high percentage of public school students have been found showing symptoms for diabetes, which she described as very "alarming."

"It alarms us because the CNMI has high percentage of diabetes per capita and we want to work with parents and our partners on how we can overcome this issue," Sablan told Saipan Tribune.

She also disclosed that a significant number of PSS students are classified as obese.

Because PSS is also home to 17 ethnicities, Sablan said the different cultures, origins, languages, and customs are proving to be barriers to effective learning.

"If you have different cultures and traditions...that's where you can also find the challenges. It has impact on our student learning because some students don't know how to read in the medium of instruction that we expect in

the classroom," she said.

Sablan also lamented the lack of a universal preschool program on island. She said there are 200-plus 5-year-old children who are out of school because of the lack of resources.

"We have over 200 kids who need to go to school but can't be accommodated...because we need more teachers and classrooms to do that," she said.

This school year, over 600 children are enrolled in kinder-

garten on three islands.

The PSS' kindergarten program is currently offered in half-day sessions only due to a lack of teachers and facilities. The Education Board recently approved full-day kindergarten

sessions after noting the increasing number of children on the waitlist every year. However,

just to build the additional classrooms for this purpose would require some \$3 million.

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Pohnpei election in NMI posts lowest turnout

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An election held yesterday to determine the fate of 10 amendments to the Pohnpei Constitution saw a turnout of just 7 percent.

According to representatives of the Election Commission of Pohnpei in the Commonwealth, only 24 of the 360 Pohnpei residents registered to vote in the CNMI cast their vote.

Election board spokesperson Kohne Ramon said this is among the lowest turnout recorded in the CNMI and perhaps in the whole state of Pohnpei.

He blamed the lack of interest among Pohnpei citizens and a lack of information about the election, among other factors, for the low participation rate.

"To many of our people, issues regarding the Constitution are not personal to them. Also, 90 percent

of our voters are unaware of what are the issues on the ballot and its significance to their lives," Ramon told *Saipan Tribune*.

The election was held from 8am to 5pm yesterday at the Garapan Central Park.

Saipan Tribune learned that 10 constitutional proposals were on the ballot. Among them was a proposal to amend the compensation of justices and judges. Under current Pohnpei law, an

appointed judge or justice may have an unlimited term and the salary may be changed anytime by the appointing authority.

Ramon believes that majority of voters yesterday approved this proposed amendment.

Another important proposal on the ballot was for nominations for the governor and lieutenant governor to be in a single ticket. During the last few administrations in Pohnpei, constant conflicts would

arise between top elected officials when they come from different political parties.

"Based on our experience, this difference adversely affected how our government is being operated...and we want to change that," Ramon said.

Another important proposals on the ballot is to allow Pohnpeians residing outside of the island to seek legal assistance from the government.

Another was to change the constitutional provision that only allows one proposal to be placed on the ballot in a specific election year. *Saipan Tribune* learned that elections for amendments to the Pohnpei Constitution could only be conducted every 10 years. Ramon believes this is a waste of money and time on the part of voters who will have to wait for another 10 years to propose changes to the Constitution.

The results of yesterday's election will be transmitted electronically to the State of Pohnpei for certification.

Pangelinan commissioned as second lieutenant in US Army

Franklin Deleon Guerrero Pangelinan was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army at Cameron University, Lawton, Oklahoma, on Saturday, May 8, 2010.

Now in the Quartermaster

Corps, Pangelinan, a distinguished military graduate, was a cadet in the Comanche Battalion, Cameron University's Army ROTC program, one of the top programs in the nation and a 2010 MacArthur Award

recipient for best battalion in the Western region.

Pangelinan was a non-commissioned officer selected to participate in the Army's competitive Green to Gold program, which annually provides 200

enlisted soldiers in the Army the opportunity to earn commissions as Army officers and college degrees as full-time students through Army ROTC.

On Friday, May 7, 2010, Pangelinan graduated cum laude with

a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He holds an associate degree in Criminal Justice from Northern Marianas College and is an alumnus of Marianas High School.

Pangelinan encourages others to pursue higher education and advance their military career. "It's never too late," he said. "All you need is motivation and purpose."

In attendance at the commencement event and commissioning ceremony was his wife, Adryanne Sablan Pangelinan, daughter Analu Pangelinan, 23 months, mother Lucy M. Deleon Guerrero, mother-in-law Anne V. Sablan, aunt Lucy I. Sablan, and uncle SFC (retired) Ray M. Sablan.

Pangelinan was with the CNMI's Army Reserve prior to joining the active Army component. He was a staff sergeant

with the E Company, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry. The company has been on two combat tours in Iraq; Pangelinan served in the first tour.

Pangelinan, during his stint with the local Army Reserve, was employed by the Depart-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

2Lt. Franklin Deleon Guerrero Pangelinan recently graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma.

ment of Public Safety and served several capacities, including the Investigative Unit of DPS.

He is the son of the late local musical legend Frank "Bokongno" Pangelinan. (PR)

3 charges upheld, one dismissed in ex-convict teen's assault case

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman has upheld the filing of three charges and dismissed one in the case of an ex-convict teen who allegedly assaulted a detective inside a poker arcade in Chalan Kanoa.

During Monday's preliminary hearing, Wiseman found probable cause to believe that Marvin Ringlen may have committed the crimes of assault and battery, resisting arrest, and criminal contempt. He ordered the 19-year-old Ringlen to answer the charges.

Wiseman, however, dismissed the charge of minor consuming alcohol after hearing the testimony of a witness and finding no probable cause.

The case arose when Ringlen allegedly hit detective Sean White on the left hand and chest during a confrontation inside the Smile Poker in Chalan Kanoa on May 1.

At that time, officers were

conducting a routine check in the area after an armed robbery at the Chang Won Restaurant, said detective Melissa H. Bauleong.

White entered the poker arcade at 2:15am and recognized Ringlen, who was playing in one of the machines. He approached Ringlen and asked him if he has court conditions and a curfew to follow.

Ringlen, who allegedly smelled of alcohol, replied that he has a curfew. When White held the teenager's arm, the suspect hit his left hand and chest. Ringlen then ran away.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement has already moved for the removal of Ringlen from the CNMI.

Ringlen, a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, has a history of criminal convictions. (Ferdie de la Torre)

**DEADLINE
EXTENDED
Thursday, May 13, 2010
5:00 PM**

SPAM

COOK-OFF

Cook-Off Competition

Saturday
May 15, 2010 at 7pm

**TASTE OF THE MARIANAS
(AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK)**

Limit 10 contestants

SPAM™ COOK-OFF

OFFICIAL RULES AND CONDITIONS

1. Eligibility. This Contest is open only to contestants who are at least 18 years of age or older and amateurs. Contestants who participated and/or won previous SPAM Cook-Off events may enter again but must enter a new and original recipe. Professionals are not eligible to enter. For purposes of this event, "Professionals" are defined as anyone who makes money through professional cooking, including, but not limited to chefs, food editors, home economists, and food preparation editors. Employees of Dickerson & Quinn, Marianas Visitors Authority and the immediate families of each are not eligible to enter.
2. The SPAM™ Cook-Off will be held at the Taste of the Marianas (American Memorial Park) on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 7pm and will be limited to ten (10) contestants. Contest registration will be on a first-come, first serve basis. To enter the contest, individuals must submit their name, address, daytime phone number and recipe; all information is to be typed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper, to the Dickerson & Quinn offices, CTSI Building, Sister Remedios Drive, Lower Base, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. All contestants will be required to sign the Official Rules upon entering the contest. Each contestant may enter only one recipe for one of the following categories: original appetizer, casserole, stew, stir-fry, salad or sandwich. Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can from the SPAM® family of products (any variety). Last day/time to submit entry forms and recipes is Monday, May 10, 2010 at 5pm.
3. Recipes must not have been published and/or cannot have won prizes or awards in other contests and must not be restricted in any way. Submission of the recipes gives Dickerson & Quinn the right to modify, edit, adapt, publish and/or use the recipe in any way and in any and all media without limitation and without consideration or payment to the entrant.
4. Each participating contestant will be given a SPAM™ T-shirt. Contestants are encouraged to wear the T-shirt during each competition.
5. Contestants must bring their dish for judging by 6:30pm on May 15, 2010. Any dishes brought in after 6:30pm will be disqualified. Judging will begin promptly at 7:00pm. Final heating, cooking and presentation preparation may be done at the contest site. Power outlets will be provided. Contestants must bring all required preparation materials such as warming plates, crock pots, etc. The individual who entered the contest must be present at the judging of their dish. Entries will be judged on the basis of taste, originality and overall presentation. Dickerson & Quinn and the Marianas Visitors Authority will choose the judges.
6. A first, second and third place winner will be selected. The first place winner will receive \$150 cash plus a \$150 SPAM™ gift basket. The second place winner will receive \$50 cash plus a \$100 SPAM™ gift basket. The third place winner will receive a \$50 SPAM™ gift basket.

Winner will receive \$150 cash plus a \$150 SPAM™ Gift Basket!

To Enter	Categories	Prizes
<p>Print the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your name • address • daytime phone number • SPAM™ recipe <p>on an 8.5x11 sheet of paper and submit to Dickerson & Quinn offices, CTSI Building, Sister Remedios Drive, Lower Base, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. For more information call 322-2706.</p>	<p>Each contestant may enter only one recipe in one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • original appetizer • casserole • stew • stir-fry • salad • sandwich <p>Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can of the SPAM® family of products.</p>	<p>Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.</p> <p>1st place prize \$150 cash plus a \$150 SPAM™ Gift Basket</p> <p>2nd place prize \$50 cash plus a \$100 SPAM™ Gift Basket</p> <p>3rd place prize \$50 SPAM™ Gift Basket</p>

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4:00PM - 7:00PM

MAY 2010

WEDNESDAY 19TH
4:00PM - 7:00PM



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION



Denyo Power SP Generator



17ft. 1990 Calais Boat; ID#0373PU



Engine

The Commonwealth Development Authority will auction a boat engine, generator and a 17ft boat on Friday, May 28, 2010. The boat and the generator may be inspected at the CDA Office parking lot in Gualo Rai.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **CDA Office Parking Lot** on **Friday, May 28, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.**
4. Full payment is required before items can be removed from the premises; and buyer is responsible for removing purchased items;
5. Terms of the sale are cash, credit card (MC and Visa) or certified check; and
6. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale.

/S/ **MANUEL A. SABLAN**
 Executive Director

Man nabbed for alleged sex abuse of two minors

Police arrested on Monday a 40-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused two girls, including one for a period of four years, at a residence in Dandan.

Alvin P. Iglecias was arrested for first-degree sexual abuse of a child.

A \$10,000 cash bail was initially imposed for his temporary release. A bail hearing was set yesterday afternoon.

Detective Melinda Villanueva stated in her report that a police officer responded to a residence in Dandan on Sunday night to investigate a report about a sexual abuse of a minor.

Villanueva said that when the police officer arrived at the house, the complainant was crying and appeared very upset. The complainant asked that the two girls be removed from the house for their own safety.

Villanueva said Iglecias has been allegedly abusing one of the victims for four years already.

The second girl, Villanueva said, stated that Iglecias also touched her private parts before, but that he had stopped since then. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamorro radio talk show airs Saturdays

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona with a special guest host, former mayor Joseph S. Inos. The talk show airs every Saturday, from 9am to 11am. The show features a special report from Rota by Thomas D. Mendiola and a report from Tinian by former senator David M. Cing. Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com is available. For more information, e-mail marianasagupa@gmail.com. *(PR)*

Koblerville calendar of activities

■ May 15, 2010, Saturday: Koblerville Community Coalition - Neighborhood Watch Group, Saipan Mayor's Office, Saipan Southern High School students, DEQ Cleanup Brigade, CNMI parolees, Rep. Diego Benavente, Rep. Joseph Guerrero, and Rep. Antonio Sablan, Sen. Ralph Torres and staff and volunteers will be cleaning up the old airport field behind Tottotville.

■ May 29, 2010, Saturday: Koblerville Community Coalition - Neighborhood Watch and Saipan Southern High School students and volunteers will be doing a cleanup at the Unai Dankulo (beachside below Coral Ocean Point).

We are asking drivers to be wary of volunteers who will be out on these dates and to drive slowly. *(PR)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 12, 1999

CUC says power rate cut will jeopardize operations

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has not raised power rates for residential and commercial customers for the past 12 years despite increasing operational costs and fuel prices, Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez said yesterday. He stressed a legislative proposal to cut the cost of electricity on the island would only burden the government in efforts to maintain utility services in the CNMI as revenues would not be enough to keep CUC operational. "Here we are trying to survive and trying to get away from government subsidy and (Sen. Edward U. Maratita) is doing that, trying to lower the rates to bring it back to a level where subsidy comes into play again," Villagomez told in an interview.

Illegal aliens worry Teno

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday expressed concern over the wave of diversion of hundreds of illegal Chinese immigrants to Tinian, as he underscored the need to weigh future transfer of undocumented aliens to avoid overcrowding at the temporary holding facility. Eighty-four more Chinese illegals were brought to the San Jose Harbor in the island municipality Saturday by the US Coast Guard after a fishing vessel carrying them was interdicted before it could reach Guam. This new batch brings to close to 500 the Chinese nationals hosted temporarily by the Commonwealth, or nearly half of the population of Tinian.

MAY 12, 2000

Legislature OKs FY2000 budget

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio is now faced with a tough decision whether to sign the FY 2000 budget which unanimously passed both houses of the Legislature yesterday in a back-to-back session, more than eight months into the current fiscal year. By this time, all departments and agencies have already spent almost two-thirds of the \$211 million proposed spending level, but lawmakers made comprehensive changes to the package in approving the measure. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation will have to dim hopes of getting payment from the government for its utilities as this budget has cut the entire \$4 million earmarked by the Tenorio administration this year.

Govt cautioned on sole-source contract

Saying he reluctantly voted to give in to the majority's approval of the FY 2000 budget, Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes expressed objection to a decision to sole-source contract for a lobbying firm in Washington D.C. provided under the spending package. He also prodded Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, who has yet to even sign the newly passed budget bill, against exercising his authority in contracting lobbyists without adhering to CNMI procurement regulations. At the same time, the Senate adopted resolution he authored clarifying its intent on agreeing with the House on such provision which was a result of the compromise agreement reached by both chambers on the proposed budget.

MAY 12, 2003

Party-mate blasts Babauta for alleged lack of support

Gov. Juan N. Babauta has reportedly decided not to support Richard Hofschneider as possible nominee to the Commonwealth Ports Authority board, prompting Hofschneider to question the Governor's alleged lack of priority for Tinian. Hofschneider, who ran for senator under the Babauta-Benavente team during the last general elections, said that ranking officials and personalities at the second senatorial district have suggested him as possible nominee to the vacant CPA board seat for Tinian but this was not met with approval by Babauta and his close advisers. "The Tinian delegation has supported my nomination to the board seat to replace Ray Cing, whose term already ended.

PSS administrators want add'l \$1M to upgrade facilities, not salary hike

Saying that Public School System teachers get a "competitive" base pay of over \$38,000, PSS administrators want to use a projected additional budget of about \$1 million to upgrade and maintain facilities rather than to increase salaries. House education committee chairman Rep. Daniel Quitugua said he was surprised to learn during a Friday meeting with PSS administrators that they actually prefer to use any additional budget for fiscal year 2004 for renovation and maintenance purposes. The Governor's Office has informed the PSS that its budget for the next fiscal year would increase by slightly over \$1 million, to be used specifically for salary increase of teachers, especially those in the early grades-kindergarten to third grade.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Commonwealth Development Authority will auction various furniture and equipments from the Pacific Gardenia Hotel on Saturday, May 22, 2010.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **PACIFIC GARDENIA HOTEL** on **Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.**
4. Full payment is required before items can be removed from the premises and Buyer is responsible for removing purchased items;
5. Terms of the sale are cash, credit card - minimum \$100 (MC and Visa only) or certified check; and
6. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale.

The hotel will be open for inspection on Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21 from 1 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

/S/ **MANUEL A. SABLAN**
 Executive Director



BoG joins roster of MMAC title sponsors

Bank of Guam has been named a “title” sponsor of the 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer. Bank of Guam has donated \$3,000 to the 2010 MMAC and will also be participating as a team along with Garapan Elementary School.

Title sponsorship is the most prestigious level of sponsorship for the MMAC.

“On behalf of the entire 2010 MMAC committee and all our volunteers, we thank the staff and management of the Bank of Guam for their generous support in the battle against cancer,” said 2010 MMAC public relations committee chair Christopher A. Concepcion.

The 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held this Friday night and Saturday morning, May 14-15, from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Ju-



Photo shows Bank of Guam employees presenting a check to 2010 MMAC officials. From left, Dr. Jack Hardy, Dave Guerrero, Catherine Attao-Toves, Janine Nogis, Tina Sablan, Marcie Tomokane, David Rosario and Larry Philip.

community that everyone is invited for a night of fun games, great food and live entertainment—all to raise funds for cancer patient assistance and other cancer programs in the CNMI. We have 15 teams competing in the largest cancer fundraising event in the Northern Marianas so come down and help support the fight against cancer,” said Concepcion.

Other title sponsors are Delta Air Lines, DFS Saipan, Ltd., IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Sorensen Media Group Saipan and Take Care/FHP. **(MMAC)**

PAWS CORNER

Wonderful cats in need of homes

A PAWS member is leaving island, and unfortunately, she cannot take all of her wonderful cats due to cost. She has put them up for adoption to a good home.

If you are interested in adopting one of the great cats described below, contact Becky at 483-3541 or bsg96950@gmail.com.

- “Sissy”**
10 months old, spayed with shots up to date. Loves getting petted with feet.
- “Sister”**
10 months old, spayed with shots up to date. Wery laid back, friendly, and very lovable.
- “Curly”**
10 months old, male, rambunctious, very lovable, with a unique tail (You need to see it!).
- “Sweet Pea”**
10 months old, male. Friendly, lovable and very vocal (he would let you know when he’s hungry). **(PAWS)**



PAINTING DONATION

Educator and author Katharyn Tuten-Puckett, second from left, donates a drawing by Marconi Calindas titled “Reading in the Jungle” to honor Saipan’s Young Writers. The drawing was framed by Ernie Davis. Total cost of picture and frame was about \$300. The drawing is now housed in the Children of our Homeland Center at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Shown in picture, from left, are Celina Foreman, Children of our Homeland Center Library Assistant; Tuten-Puckett; John Gonzales, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director; and Erlinda Naputi, Children’s Library Associate.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

nior High School field in Chalan Piao.

“We are very excited about this annual event and we’d like to remind the

DFS Saipan, Ltd., IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Sorensen Media Group Saipan and Take Care/FHP. **(MMAC)**

POLICE CHECKPOINTS

Seatbelt, child carseat checkpoints on Saturday

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting courtesy car seat inspections and occupant protection child restraint checkpoints on the island of Saipan on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

The first checkpoint will be held on Beach Road Chalan Kanoa in front of Payless Super Market on the southbound outer lane, from 8am to 9:15am.

The second setup will be on Chalan Pale Arnold 2W Chalan Laulau across TransAmerica, on the southbound outer lane, from 2:30pm to 3:45pm.

Each checkpoint conducted will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location. This activity is part of the department’s efforts to ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

Checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain.

Police officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrol, and aggressive driver interdictions. For more information, contact Sgt. Sylvan Rangamor at 664-9085/84 or DPS-PIO Police Officer Eric David at 483-9032. **(DPS)**

Sobriety, DUI checkpoints on Sunday

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting a DUI checkpoint on Sunday, May 16, 2010, on Beach Road Susupe in front of the Multi-Purpose Center, on the northbound outer lane. It will start at 5pm and end at 6:15pm.

The checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes and is subject to termination if it begins to rain.

Police officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrol, and aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities.

This activity is part of the department’s efforts to deter, detect and apprehend impaired motorists on highways and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

This is also part of “Impaired Driving National Enforcement Crackdown” activities. Statistical data and information compiled by DPS has shown that from the month of November 2009 to May 2, 2010 there were a total of 62 arrests of DUI.

For more information, contact Sgt. Sylvan Rangamor at 664-9085/84 or DPS-PIO Ofcr. Eric David at 483-9032. **(DPS)**

SHIPPING SCHEDULE



Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENTOSA	037E	5/1 Sat	4/29 Thu	4/29 Thu	4/27 Tue	4/24 Sat	5/7 Fri	5/3 Mon	5/2 Sun	4/25 Sun	4/25 Sun	5/3 Mon	5/7 Fri	5/9 Sun	5/11 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	003E	5/8 Sat	5/6 Thu	5/6 Thu	5/4 Tue	5/1 Sat	5/14 Fri	5/10 Mon	5/9 Sun	5/2 Sun	5/2 Sun	5/10 Mon	5/14 Fri	5/16 Sun	5/18 Tue
MELL SILOSO	004E	5/15 Sat	5/13 Thu	5/13 Thu	5/11 Tue	5/8 Sat	5/21 Fri	5/17 Mon	5/16 Sun	5/9 Sun	5/9 Sun	5/17 Mon	5/21 Fri	5/23 Sun	5/25 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	038E	5/22 Sat	5/20 Thu	5/20 Thu	5/18 Tue	5/15 Sat	5/28 Fri	5/24 Mon	5/23 Sun	5/16 Sun	5/16 Sun	5/24 Mon	5/28 Fri	5/30 Sun	6/1 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	004E	5/29 Sat	5/27 Thu	5/27 Thu	5/25 Tue	5/22 Sat	6/4 Fri	5/31 Mon	5/30 Sun	5/23 Sun	5/23 Sun	5/31 Mon	6/4 Fri	6/6 Sun	6/8 Tue
MELL SILOSO	005E	6/5 Sat	6/3 Thu	6/3 Thu	6/1 Tue	5/29 Sat	6/11 Fri	6/7 Mon	6/6 Sun	5/30 Sun	5/30 Sun	6/7 Mon	6/11 Fri	6/13 Sun	6/15 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENTOSA	037E	5/15 Sat	5/16 Sun	5/16 Sun	5/18 Tue	5/19 Wed	5/21 Fri	5/23 Sun	SKIP	5/28 Fri	5/29 Sat	6/3 Thu	6/22 Tue	6/2 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	003E	5/22 Sat	5/23 Sun	5/23 Sun	SKIP	5/26 Wed	5/28 Fri	5/30 Sun	SKIP	6/4 Fri	6/5 Sat	6/10 Thu	6/29 Tue	6/9 Wed
MELL SILOSO	004E	5/29 Sat	5/30 Sun	5/30 Sun	6/1 Tue	6/2 Wed	6/4 Fri	6/6 Sun	SKIP	6/11 Fri	6/12 Sat	6/17 Thu	7/6 Tue	6/16 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	038E	6/5 Sat	6/6 Sun	6/6 Sun	SKIP	6/9 Wed	6/11 Fri	6/13 Sun	SKIP	6/18 Fri	6/19 Sat	6/24 Thu	7/13 Tue	6/23 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	004E	6/12 Sat	6/13 Sun	6/13 Sun	6/15 Tue	6/16 Wed	6/18 Fri	6/20 Sun	SKIP	6/25 Fri	6/26 Sat	7/1 Thu	7/20 Tue	6/30 Wed
MELL SILOSO	005E	6/19 Sat	6/20 Sun	6/20 Sun	SKIP	6/23 Wed	6/25 Fri	6/27 Sun	SKIP	7/2 Fri	7/3 Sat	7/8 Thu	7/27 Tue	7/7 Wed

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 112Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

The maybe-fly list

It took 53 hours and 20 minutes from the discovery of a smoldering Nissan Pathfinder in Times Square to a cliffhanger arrest of a suspect on a plane bound for Dubai. New York's police commissioner likened his cops' efficiency to that of terror-buster Jack Bauer on TV's "24."

Not quite. Excellent police work contributed to the arrest of Faisal Shahzad. But this case also exposes persistent and appalling gaps in the nation's defenses against terror. How did a suspect whose name had been added to the terrorist no-fly list hours earlier still manage to pay cash for a one-way fare (a supposed red flag), board an Emirates airliner—and come within minutes of takeoff?

The feds blame the airline. They say it was notified to check the no-fly list for an important added name: Shahzad's. But airline workers apparently didn't do so. A final check by U.S. customs and border patrol agents saved the day.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano credited changes to security systems after an attempted Christmas Day bombing of a flight to Detroit for helping federal agents intercept Shahzad before the flight left.

Yes, the system worked. But just barely. As New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said: "Clearly the guy was on the plane and shouldn't have been. We got lucky."

Very lucky. The no-fly list can't be the maybe-fly list. Or the we'll-check-it-when-we-have-the-time list. There's still too much lag time and margin for error.

On Wednesday, the federal Transportation Security Administration tightened the rules so airlines now have two hours to recheck the list after being flagged that a name has been added. The old rules allowed 24 hours. That should help. But the system needs further improvement.

The TSA will take over the cross-checking of passenger manifests against the no-fly list for domestic and international flights late this year. The feds should move faster to close gaps.

That includes another problem flagged on Dec. 25 when authorities missed a chance to intercept Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab before he boarded his Detroit-bound flight and tried to ignite explosive powder in his underwear. The Nigerian's name was on a watch list of those suspected of having terror ties. But somehow he hadn't been added to the no-fly list. Officials planned to question Abdulmutallab after he landed in Detroit. You don't need a degree in criminology to detect the major flaw in that plan.

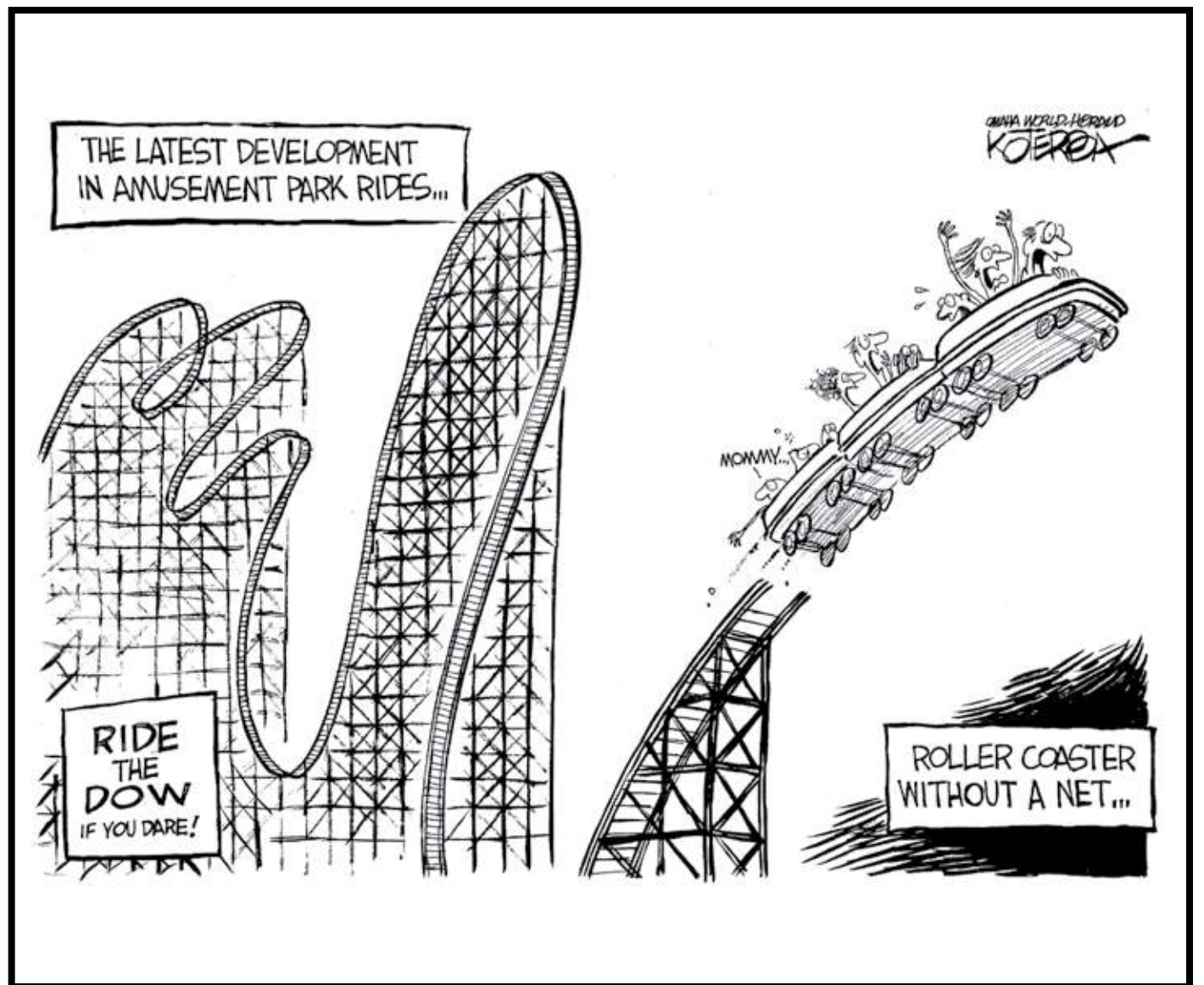
The nation has now fended off two attacks in less than six months. That's a matter of good police work...and luck.

The less we depend on luck, the better.

Lee Hamilton, vice chairman of the Sept. 11 commission, says the government has failed to create an adequate system to check people entering and leaving the U.S. Nearly six years have passed since the commission pointed out this vulnerability and recommended ways to fix it.

Nearly six years.

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Shifting sands of paradise

As I was paging through newspapers the other day, I heard an old favorite folk song, *Time*. There's the soul-searching chime, "Time, oh good, good time, where did you go?"

There's no real answer to it given that the promised "better times" has morphed into the cyclical "bad times." At the way revenues quickly disappear, this phenomenon would be around for quite a while. Coupled with an announcement of work hour cuts for 400 non-civil servants, this doesn't offer much hope to meet an already woefully tight family budget.

Then there's the parade of Pre-Summer Fights among elected public officials between here and Washington. The titular head is in court against the fed, Speaker Lang is relentless in his feud with the Senate, not to mention the tug-of-war on austerity; PSS vs. the titular head on proposed cuts; judges vs. governor on its budget; while the Senate tries sunset fire dancing, hoping that making hard decisions would disappear out west; and legislators creating distractions to protect their \$4K-plus monthly stipend from taxpayers. But this time-honored redundancy isn't helping anybody at all.

The debate moves toward the comfortable pit stop of procrastination. At least it gives politicians the opportunity to revive old tricks in their now empty bags to buy more time. It's a wonderful resting place for those who have nothing new and realistic solutions to offer. It also gives them time to chew betel nut while humming soothing tunes like, "Don't worry..." "He ain't heavy, he's my brother," "Love makes the world go 'round," and, "Let it be" where the word of wisdom is bankruptcy, a stubborn bad dream that refuses to recede.

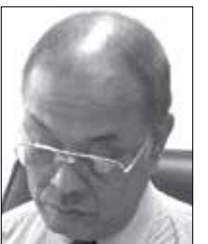
We look toward Washington for some respite of hope. But Delegate Kilili is stuck in the mud of his marine monument visitors center, raging and ranting to Delegate Bordallo, "It's mine, Madeleine, it's mine!" While the NMI sinks deeper into its dire financial straits? He should have trumpeted the Covenant agreement among his colleagues, mandating the feds to "provide for a progressively higher standard of living" for the NMI. This is the perfect time to put them to their commitment.

The working class must explore every avenue in the darkest alleys they've descended into in recent past. Some had to roll over current bank debts to meet summer and fall term costs for their kids, i.e., tuition, dormitory and books. You sit and ponder what other avenues are available to meet this need for several more years as siblings struggle to complete classes. More often than not, these needs spiral upwards by leaps and bounds while income remains stagnant, if not fatally headed Deep South.

Most turns we've made land us repeatedly in the blistering heat of hopelessness. We try to navigate the confusion with weak-kneed

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



confidence, pretending to be ignorant or innocent of all that had gone wrong in paradise. We blame everybody else except ourselves. But we begin to see that scapegoats have also gone home to rest; we ran out of scapegoats!

Be that as it may, most folks go their own way determined to look forward in hopes that something breaks for the better. As scarce as this opportunity may be, don't look back into that hellish hole we once called paradise. It no longer exists. But I am guardedly optimistic that "this too shall pass" whether we're scorched into ashes under the constantly shifting sands of paradise.

■ ■ ■

On a rare trip to Suicide Cliff, I met a group of visitors from the Land of the Rising Sun. The bus conductor explained the site as the last venue where Japanese decided to plunge to their death. And he was talking to Japanese tourists as if they didn't already know their sad history here, not to mention Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The redundant rhythm and music has been around since 40-plus years ago. We haven't changed other than regurgitating the same tired old message on different days. Must be the reason Guam, some 250 miles southwest of this archipelago, is progressing far better than ours! Hello, anybody home?

■ ■ ■

We must not fear meeting current realities outside our comfort zone. Bold steps are needed now before the last economic pillar buckles and cascades into oblivion. Like a sand pile, you know it would cascade even in the best of times, the only question being when. Small contingency plans are imperative to see where we can burn the midnight oil to work with major markets collectively to resolve the issue on load capacity. Any further promotion would be an exercise in futility for as long as the NMI lacks load capacity.

■ ■ ■

I quizzed Magoo for answers to the deepening budget crisis. Said he: "I thought someone said that this is only a paper deficit. If such is the case, why are we fighting over something that is only on paper, *di ba*?" I don't know, Maria!

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Selling to the soul

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Have you, or anyone you know ever been referred to as an “old soul?” It’s a common expression, used to identify individuals whose personality, perspective, attitudes, interests, demeanor, visage and/or aura seem to suggest that they’ve been here (on this planet) before. Young children with apparently maturely developed interests, abilities, personality traits and even knowledge have been referred to as having or being old souls.

It would stand to reason, then, that if there are “old” souls, that there must also be “young” souls, and souls of every age in between. In fact, there are, according to philosophers, mystics, seers and sages who, for centuries have observed, experienced or channeled information about such phenomena.

The concept of old and young souls is based on the idea that our immortal spirits have had many different experiences on this plane of existence, and that some of us—in the ongoing adventure to experience all there is—have been here many times, in different identities, while other souls may be new to the earth school.

Whatever your views on the idea of reincarnation—an intuitively obvious fact to some, and poppycock to others—the idea that people are born with varying levels of spiritual development and maturity doesn’t require any great leap in belief to appreciate. So, let’s take a look at what the concept of “soul age” is all about.

Five soul ages

According to one well-known source, there are five states—or ages—of soul development: Infant, Baby, Young, Mature and Old. Each age has its own set of challenges, motivations and aspirations. Here is just a brief overview of all of them:

Infant Souls are driven by fear, and challenged with basic survival. There isn’t yet much feeling for ethics or personal morality. The Infant Soul has to be taught what is right and wrong. Love or sexuality will be experienced on the level of lust.

Baby Souls are a little more comfortable in the world, less fear-driven, but require structure in order to feel comfortable in the world. They want to be directed and therefore seek out higher authorities who are willing to lay out clear rules for them. Traditions, rituals, and law and order provide a welcome sense of security. “That’s the rule and that’s what we’ll do,” is typical thinking of a baby soul.

Young Souls, having mastered the Infant and Baby Soul issues of survival, discipline and order, are now looking to see how powerful they can become in the world. Ambition, status, independence and the ability to get what one wants out of life are the driving forces of the Young Soul stage. Seizing what the physical plane has to offer, vying to gain positions of prominence, power and great material wealth are important for young souls.

Mature Souls tend to focus less on the outer world and the material, and more on the inner world as well as relationship issues. The questions “Who am I?” and “Why am I here?” are asked with frequency in these lives. Emotions open up, boundaries between people break down. Non-traditional religions, meditation, and metaphysics start to look interesting.

Old Souls have detached from the emotional intensities of the Mature Soul period and get more objective about the ups and downs of life.

By the time a soul has arrived at this stage, they’ve had dozens of lifetimes in varieties of cultures and classes thoroughly blended into their essences. It is much more difficult, therefore, for Old Souls to get embroiled in the right-and-wrong, us-and-them games people and countries both play. Seeing the whole picture in this way makes Old Souls calmer, more peaceful and centered. It can also make them appear passive or weak to the other soul ages.

According to the soul age belief, a being will go through different levels in each age so that by the time a person has completed a stage, they’ve had anywhere from seven to 20 lifetimes in that stage.

It also should be obvious that certain cultures and countries exhibit behavior consistent with different stages of soul development. So, for instance, a country like the United States is evidently more driven by a young soul mentality than a country like Holland or Sweden.

[For much more in-depth discussion of each soul age, visit www.michaelteachings.com]

Widgets for the American soul

So, what does this have to do with business and selling, you (and my editor) might ask?

Well, knowing that an individual’s and even an entire nation’s interests and attitudes can be defined and understood in terms of a soul age gives you a bit of an advantage over other marketers who believe that purchasing behavior is strictly a function of biological age, race or gender (the concept of soul age cuts across all these lines), or that buying habits can be manipulated by advertising alone (Yes, constant repetitive advertising can be effective, but no amount of fancy advertising will ever get an old soul to define herself by the kind of watch she wears.).

Although there are similarities and parallels in behavior and attitudes between biological age and soul age, there is no direct correlation. In other words, a 90-year old could be a young soul, and a 2-year old could be an old soul, and throughout his entire life exhibit the interests, attitudes and behavior unique to that soul age.

Similarly, no society or group is made up entirely of people of a single soul age. You will find old souls and baby souls in every country.

However, what the concept of soul age can do is equip you to understand and market more effectively to the public. Politicians know, for example, that they can “sell” their ideas with different levels of success in different regions of the country based on the soul age of that region. Marketers know that certain movies, for instance, or products will sell better in certain countries because of the prevailing soul age of that country. It’s difficult to sell luxuries in a country whose population is at the infant stage preoccupied with survival. Similarly, it is easier to sell status symbols of wealth and achievement in a country operating at a young soul age.

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*



Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

The soul of the self

But an even deeper, more compelling, and ultimately more useful reason for becoming familiar with the soul age concept has to do with self-knowledge. Knowing your own soul age can make many things clearer for you. It can explain a lot about who you are and why you do what you do. It can help you understand why certain things have always attracted or repelled you. It can help you see the patterns underlying the choices you’ve always felt compelled to make throughout your life. It can help you feel more comfortable with who you are, and who you have come to be.

While not meant to be an excuse for not trying and growing, it can even help you understand why your best efforts to become someone different have always produced the same results. For example, you might finally recognize that you are an old soul, and like most old souls uninterested in social entanglements, restrictive corporate culture, political arguments and anything that drives the young soul. Or, you might recognize yourself as a young soul driven to succeed at all costs, and to make things happen, and that the old soul traits you wish you had, of being casual and easygoing and going with the flow, just aren’t part of your soul’s makeup. Yes, knowing your soul age might just bring some peace of mind and acceptance of who you are into your existence.

In essence, the more you know about who you are, and what purpose you came here to achieve, the easier it will be to craft a life and even a business that is in alignment with and that offers the greatest fulfillment for the deepest parts of your self. Stay true to your soul!

■ ■ ■

Note: Fans and followers of the books, *Chicken Feathers and Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Girl on Saipan* (saipanfactorygirl.com) or *Jamaican on Saipan* (jamaicanonsaipan.com), or *Doing Business on Saipan* (saipanliving.com) may place orders on those sites, or...yes, Amazon.com!

Note: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that revealed the best things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!

■ ■ ■

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 16 books including *Turn Your Passion Into Profit*. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www.passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter ([waltonsaipan](https://twitter.com/waltonsaipan)).

Letters to the Editor

Deafening music, unseen performers at Taste

While most people seem to have found the food offerings at MVA’s Taste of the Marianas quite satisfactory, the same is not true of the entertainment part of the program. In the first place, the volume is deafening, making it hard to carry on a conversation. There’s no need for whatever the decibel level setting is that is being used—the music would still be audible at a much lower setting. In fact, I wouldn’t be surprised if it exceeds the level generally found safe

by the health industry.

In the second place, why is it that the band, and the announcers, get to use the stage, but the dancers, and other performers, must use the grass below? No one—except those in the immediate vicinity, can see them! What good is that?

One does not need to see the announcer—s/he just has to be heard. The same is more or less true of the musicians. But that is

not true of the dancers. If they cannot be seen, they may as well not bother performing. May I respectfully suggest that either a stage be provided the dancers, or that the dancers be given the existing stage—so that they can be seen?

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

Bon voyage

A good friend of ours will be packing his things on May 14, 2010 on his way back to the Philippines. A month later, he will be landing in one of the airports of Canada with his family for a brighter future. He and his wife have been working on the islands for more than a decade but the future of their kids has been in the forefront of the family agenda. We were sad to see him packing all his personal stuff, giving out a few items to a neighbor, shaking hands with everyone of us with a smile. “Good luck,” “Take care,” and “God bless,” “You deserve it,” and “Keep up the good work” were the only words that we could say.

The Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers and Architects and friends in the Multi-Sectoral Group of OFWs would like to extend a warmest and sincere appreciation to Norberto “Bong” De

Guzman, an active OFW Community member and a great leader. Good luck to your future endeavors in your chosen place to live and work after a decade of devoting your time and expertise on the island for a greener future away from home. Rest assured that your legacy of professionalism in the field of engineering in the past decade here on these beautiful islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will always be on our minds. Bong, you’ve said it before and I quote: “We remarkably did it when Mafea stood tall and proud for being part of the Filipino and local community and because of that was given the prestigious Philippine presidential award (Kaakbay Award 2000).” Mafeans in the Northern Mariana Islands will surely stand behind your statement. Your accomplishment in taking care of

Mafea as a member, officer and adviser will always be in our heart and thoughts.

Bon voyage to you Bong on your way back home to the Philippines and best wishes on your new adventure in Canada. On behalf of Mafea, the Multi-Sectoral Group, and the Bicol Association in the Northern Mariana Islands, we will always remember you as a good friend and outstanding community leader. *Mabuhay ka, kabayan!*






God bless and more power!

Carlito J. Marquez
Secretary, MAFEA
Puerto Rico, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼78
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼78
Yap	Sunny	▲89 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲88 ▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲90 ▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲87 ▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲67 ▼63
Beijing	Sunny	▲77 ▼54
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲78 ▼75
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲57 ▼36
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲69 ▼51
Manila	Thundershowers	▲95 ▼84
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲58 ▼51
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼75
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲59 ▼48
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼55
Paris	Showers	▲55 ▼44
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲65 ▼53
Rome	Showers	▲71 ▼57
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼41
San Francisco	Sunny	▲58 ▼49
Seoul	Sunny	▲69 ▼51
Tokyo	Rain	▲64 ▼55
Washington, DC	Rain	▲58 ▼55

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
12:14 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet	
5:43 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
12:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
7:30 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough southeast of Palau extends south from 7N141E to EQ141E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found between 7N and the equator from 137E to 147E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 35 miles of a line from 7N132E to 6N137E and between the equator and 5N from 132E to 135E farther east. Scattered showers are found south-east of Kosrae 50 miles of a line from 2N161E to 3N167E and southeast of Kwajalein within 100 miles of a point at 5N170E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:03 AM	5:00 PM
Thursday	4:45 AM	5:55 PM
Friday	5:33 AM	6:53 PM
Saturday	6:25 AM	7:52 PM
Sunday	7:23 AM	8:52 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
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- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN	OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
				OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
C09603/909	3:05am	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM				via ICN
				OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NMC Annual Charter Day



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera gives her welcoming remarks during the annual NMC Charter Day held May 7, 2010, at the college campus.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Board of Regents chair Janet King participates in the presentation of awards.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A local dance group graces the stage with a cultural dance number.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of the booths that drew a crowd was the Spicy Thai restaurant booth.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Partner of The Set, Kurt Sablan, far left, and two company representatives display merchandise for sale during the Charter Day festivities. The Set was one of the event's main sponsors.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Operators of the Brina's Corner booth show off a poster listing items for sale as they smile for the camera.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from Koblerville Elementary School opened up the Charter Day event by singing the national anthem in English, Chamorro and Carolinian.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the local rap group Fatal Hitz drew a large crowd while performing on stage.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives from the military set up a recruitment booth during the event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BEST MOMS

Belated happy Mother's Day to our beautiful and precious moms, Chong and Thelma Torres. We love you so much and we are forever grateful and thankful for all the things that you have done for us. You are the best moms in the whole wide world and we are so blessed to have you in our lives. Enjoy your special day with many blessings! Greetings from Paul, Jobe, Jonah, Jode, Joven, JJ, and Jared.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Rita Mae Santos, who is celebrating her special day today May 12, 2010! May your special day be filled with fun and laughter and the company of good friends! Happy birthday Rita Mae Santos aka "Jager-Moped"! With much love, the Crew!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to Keoni "Keo Boy" Manglona! Hope you enjoy your special day! Love and kisses from your Reyes family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday Mar! Hope you enjoy your special day! Thinking of you always, San, Thonx and the Head Start Family!

House urges CPUC to reject CUC's rate hike plan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives adopted yesterday a resolution asking the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission to reject the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s proposal to increase water and wastewater rates on a staggered basis starting this month.

Rep. Francisco S. Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), author of House Resolution 17-12, asked his colleagues to support his resolution prior to voting. H.R. 17-12 unanimously passed.

HR 17-12 asks CPUC "not to authorize" CUC's proposed water and wastewater rate increase until CUC first install water meters for all 9,217 residential and commercial customers and bill them accordingly.

It also said CUC should bill all residential, private companies, and government for the wastewater services it renders.

The resolution also asks that CUC fulfill all its obligations to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, comply with the stipulated order, install water meters, and provide potable water to CNMI residents "before implementing any additional charges to its customers."

After an initial water and wastewater rate hike in May, another round of increases will take place in October 2010 and October 2011 under CUC's proposal.

But Dela Cruz said only 4,304 or less than 50 percent of the 9,217 resi-

dential and commercial customers of CUC have metered water services.

He said the water that CUC provides its customers "is not even potable water."

The lawmaker said CUC is trying to maximize its collections but at the same time proposing to limit the payment process for its consumers.

CUC proposes a limit on payment

through credit card by its residential and commercial consumers in the amount of \$300 and \$1,000, respectively.

The Senate earlier adopted a

similar resolution against CUC's proposed rate hikes. Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) is the author of Senate Resolution 17-18.

Fital administration to reprogram local funds, commits \$1M for PSS

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Fital administration will reprogram local funds to provide the \$1 million the Public School System needs this fiscal year in order to meet the maintenance-of-effort requirement of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, saying PSS officials, Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, and representatives of the Office of Management and Budget recently met to take up this matter.

"It has already been addressed by the Office of the Lt. Governor and the OMB in our meeting. I don't know what specific source of local fund they will reprogram for the \$1 million... but we were assured of the amount," Sablan said yesterday after the Saipan Rotary Club meeting where she was the guest speaker.

PSS is supposed to have a budget of \$32.491 million under the continuing resolution. However, an across-the-board 7.25 percent budget cut this fiscal year resulted in \$2.355 million being taken from this amount, resulting in a current budget of just \$30.136



HAIDEE EUGENIO

Rotary Club of Saipan president Kim Forrester, left, listens to the presentation of Education Commissioner Rita Sablan during yesterday's regular meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

million. The governor later gave PSS \$2 million from his share of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, resulting in a budget of \$32.1 million.

Under the MOE requirement, PSS must receive a minimum funding of 22.73 percent of total government revenue. With revenue projected at \$137 million this fiscal year, this means PSS

should have a minimum budget of \$33.2 million.

Without the \$1 million it needs to meet the MOE requirement, Sablan said PSS cannot submit its application for phase 2 of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, which will bring in another \$16 million to the CNMI.

"In order for us to send to the U.S.

Department of Education our application for phase 2, we have to attach the documents that state that we have fulfilled and met the requirements of MOE [for the first phase]," Sablan said.

The application is now at the Department of Commerce for review and would soon be transmitted to the U.S. Department of Education.

Sablan, along with members of her leadership team and members of the Board of Education, testified before the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday, reiterating their need to get a \$38 million appropriation for Fiscal Year 2011.

PSS submitted a \$38 million budget request for next fiscal year but the governor's submission slashed this to \$30.1 million.

With an estimated revenue of just \$132 million in FY 2011, the maintenance-of-effort requirement of 22.73 percent translates to \$30 million.

"Yes, it will meet the maintenance-of-effort requirement. But we are asking the Legislature to please be mindful that PSS needs to pay for its utilities, which is not included in the governor's proposal of \$30.1 million," she said.

OIA teaches Pacific Freely Associated States about utility survival

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, in coordination with the East-West Center, held a high-level planning workshop in Honolulu for utility managers, financial officers and top elected officials from the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau to address one of the most serious economic issues facing each: the worsening financial condition of island power and water utilities.

The workshop, held on April 27-30, brought together 35 managers and financial officers from the utilities and leaders from the executive and legislative branches from the Marshalls, Palau, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap throughout the Freely Associated States.

"This was a real hands-on workshop where financial and utility experts shared strategies to assist the islands in dealing with water and power challenges," said OIA director Nikolao Pula who participated in the workshop. "This combined participation of experts and decision-makers was a success. This workshop follows through on a Joint Economic Management Committee and Joint Economic Management and Financial Accountability Committee 2009 resolution, which recommended collaborative efforts to address critical issues facing the utilities in the Freely Associated States."

The current economic recession has severely impacted the islands' ability to provide reliable electricity and clean drinking water. The rising cost of fuel, equipment, and essential supplies is threatening the long-term financial viability of several of the is-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the "Keeping the Lights On Workshop," held on April 27-30, 2010 at the East West Center in Honolulu, pose for a souvenir picture. Top row, from left: Tom Arthur; Rod Nakamura; Feliciano Perman; Johnny Adolph; William Kostka; Faustino Yangmog; Peter Garamfel; and Jackson Ngiraingas. Third row, from left: Larry Goulard; Stevick Edwin; Casten Nemra; Ken Uyehara; Lyndon Abraham; Frederick Muller; Paul Ueki; and Steve Savage. Second row, from left: William Tosie; Meril Dobrin Fujiki; Roger Mori; Kelly Keller; Maynard Alfred; Churchill Edward; Robert Fillana; David Paul; and Dee Dee Letts. Front row, from left: Fred Skilling; Nik Pula; Cheryl Jodoin; Jacqueline Alexander; Ellen Brant; Virginia Hernandez; Ruki Inabo; Sebastian Anefal; Charles Chieng; and Wesley Simina.

land utilities. The ability of these utilities to generate sufficient revenues is severely restricted by their small, generally poor island populations and all are facing large and growing operational deficits.

Several experts in the field of util-

ity finance and management were on hand to work with each island delegation to begin addressing this problem. Among the topics addressed were improving operational efficiency, coping with fuel prices, increasing revenue generation, cost recovery,

and the increased use of renewable energy sources. With the help of these experts, island leaders started the process of crafting specific strategies to address the problem in their own island states.

Also participating in the workshop

were representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, USDA Rural Utilities Service, the Asian Development Bank, the Pacific Power Association, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. (OIA)

Business

Trillion-dollar euro rescue won't solve low growth

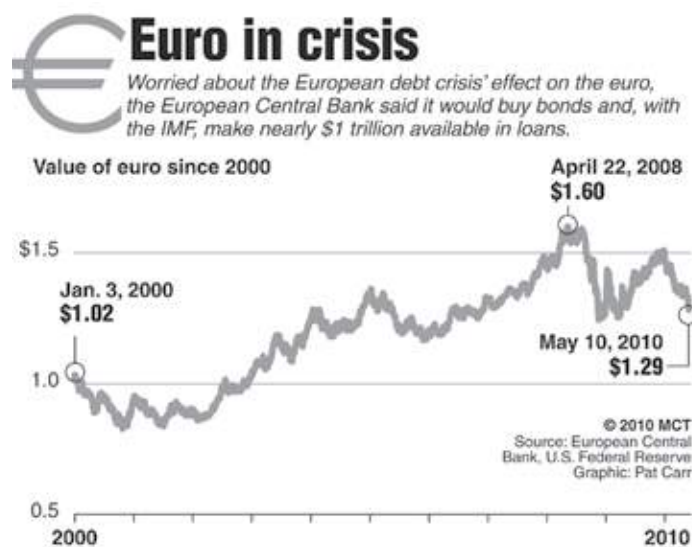
BRUSSELS (AP)—A bold \$1 trillion rescue by the European Union halted the slide of the euro on Monday and sent markets soaring worldwide in a gambit that may ultimately be seen as the moment Europe truly became a union.

The sweeping cash injection was greeted with euphoria on Wall Street, where stocks rocketed to their biggest gain in more than a year.

Still, the package did not resolve the basic dysfunction at the heart of Europe's monetary union: Governments can still spend recklessly and saddle their partners with the bill.

The approval of a "shock and awe" level rescue package followed weeks of indecision that hammered the euro and sent world markets plunging on fears Europe's debt contagion could spread well beyond Greece, where the crisis began several months ago.

"For once the scope of actions unveiled dwarfed previous leaks and speculation. This is shock and awe Part II and in 3-D," said Mar-



co Annunziata, the chief economist at UniCredit Group.

"Europe has unequivocally said, 'We will defend the euro's integrity,'" said Oliver Pursche, executive vice president at Gary Goldberg Financial Services in Suffern, N.Y.

After frantic talks lasting into the early hours of Monday, European officials agreed the 16 euro nations would put up \$572 billion (euro440 billion) in new

loans and \$78 billion (euro60 billion) under an existing lending program. The International Monetary Fund will pump in another \$325 billion (euro250 billion), for a total package of nearly \$1 trillion.

The European Commission is to raise the money in capital markets, using guarantees from member governments, and lend it to crisis-stricken countries so they can pay their bills.

New coverage for young adults will raise premiums

WASHINGTON (AP)—Letting young adults stay on their parents' health insurance until they turn 26 will nudge premiums nearly 1 percent higher for employer plans, the government said in an estimate released Monday.

The coverage requirement, effective starting later this year, is one of the most anticipated early benefits of President Barack Obama's new health care law. Many insurers have already started offering extended coverage to families who purchase their coverage directly.

And employers say parents have flooded their benefits departments with questions.

The Health and Human Services Department released estimates of the costs and benefits of the requirement as part of a regulation directing employers and insurers how to carry it out.

The new benefit will cost \$3,380 for each dependent, raising premiums by 0.7 percent in 2011 for employer plans, according to the department's mid-range estimate. Some 1.2 million young adults are expected to sign up, more

than half of whom would have been uninsured.

Extended coverage will be required starting this fall, for health plan years beginning on or after Sept. 23.

That premium increase will come on top of hikes employers already expect for next year. Large companies forecast that premiums will rise between 6.5 percent and 7 percent without the impact of the health care overhaul, according to an early survey by the National Business Group on Health and benefits consultant Towers Watson.

hovered below \$77 a barrel Tuesday in Asia after wild gyrations of the euro whipped crude around for the last week. Benchmark crude for June delivery was down 13 cents to \$76.67 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The June contract rose \$1.69 to settle at \$76.80 on Monday. Oil is down from an 18-month high of \$87.15 a barrel early last week as the European debt crisis undermined investor confidence in the euro. Commodities priced in dollars, such as oil, become more expensive for investors holding euros as the U.S. currency strengthens.

Watchdog: Treasury lax with records in bank talks
WASHINGTON (AP)—The

Treasury Department is lax about keeping records of its negotiations with bailed-out banks, including undocumented conversations in which billions of taxpayer dollars are at stake, a new watchdog report says. Treasury fails to keep meeting minutes or notes from phone calls with banks that received money from its \$700 billion financial bailout, says the report from Neil Barofsky, the Special Inspector General for the bailout fund. Barofsky's audit concerns Treasury's negotiations to sell bank warrants—securities that allow the holder to buy stock in the future at a fixed price. Treasury received the warrants from hundreds of banks as a deal-sweetener as it injected billions of dollars to stabilize the reeling banking sector.

Nation

Obama taps Kagan to give court historic 3rd female

WASHINGTON (AP)—Introducing his Supreme Court nominee to the nation, President Barack Obama on Monday portrayed Elena Kagan as a guiding force for a fractured court and a champion of typical Americans. She would be the youngest justice on the court and give it three women for the first time in history.

Less excited, Republican senators said they would give the nomination a long, hard look in potentially contentious summertime confirmation hearings. One declared he would oppose her, but Democrats hold a strong majority of Senate seats, making eventual approval likely.

In choosing Kagan, the U.S. solicitor general and a former dean of Harvard Law School, Obama sought someone he hopes will seal majority votes on a divided court, as the retiring Justice John Paul Stevens sometimes had the ability to do. The president, who said Kagan has "one of the nation's foremost legal minds," wanted



President Barack Obama introduces Solicitor General Elena Kagan as his choice for Supreme Court Justice in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Monday May 10, 2010 as Vice President Joe Biden applauds.

someone who could counter the court's conservative leaders as well as sway votes with her thinking and temperament.

Obama chose a nominee who has never been a judge, a factor the White House said had worked in Kagan's favor, giving her a different perspective from the other justices. Poised

to put his imprint on the court for a second time, the president embraced Kagan's profile: a left-leaning lawyer who has won praise from the right, earned political experience at the White House and on the college campus, cleared one Senate confirmation already and served as the nation's top lawyer.

Oil spill swells to 4M gallons; fixes days off yet

ON THE GULF OF MEXICO (AP)—Black Hawk helicopters peppered Louisiana's barrier islands with 1-ton sacks of sand Monday to bolster the state's crucial wetlands against an epic oil spill, 4 million gallons and growing, in the Gulf of Mexico.

At the site of the ruptured well a mile below the surface, a remote-controlled subma-

rine shot chemicals into the maw of the massive undersea leak to dilute the flow, further evidence that BP expects the gusher to keep erupting into the Gulf for weeks or more.

Crews using the deep-sea robot attempted to thin the oil—which is rushing up from the seabed at a pace of about 210,000 gallons per day—after getting approval

from the Environmental Protection Agency, BP PLC officials said.

Two previous tests were done to determine the potential impact on the environment, and the third round of spraying began was to last into early Tuesday.

The EPA said the effects of the chemicals were still widely unknown.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ariz. referendum drives targeting new law dropped

PHOENIX (AP)—The two proposed referendum drives challenging Arizona's new sweeping law targeting illegal immigration are being abandoned, organizers said Monday. Andrew Chavez, a professional petition circulator involved in one of the efforts, said its backers pulled the plug after concluding they might not be able to time their petition filings in such a way as to put the law on hold pending a 2012 public vote. Jon Garrido, the chief organizer of the other drive, attributed its end to a belief that the law would have been subject to legal protections under Arizona's Constitution if approved by Arizona voters. The law takes effect July 29 unless implementation is blocked by court injunctions requested under at least three of the four pending legal challenges already filed by an Hispanic clergy group, police officers and other individuals.

Calif. woman pleads guilty in death of girl, 8

TRACY, Calif. (AP)—In the small California city sent reeling last year by an 8-year-old girl's killing, a local Sunday school teacher's guilty plea Monday brought relief to residents—even as disturbing questions remained, including how, where and why the girl was murdered. Hours after 29-year-old Melissa Huckaby admitted to killing Sandra Cantu, police stood guard at the entrance to the mobile home park where both the victim and the defendant lived. Evelyn McClelland, 61, a neighborhood resident for 26 years, believed the plea will bring some measure of peace to the victim's family and to a Northern California community striving to overcome the mistrust that descended after the girl's disappearance. "The children are back outside playing again. This all closes a very painful chapter in Tracy," McClelland said.

5 dead as tornadoes rip through Southern Plains

NORMAN, Okla. (AP)—Tornadoes ripped through parts of the Southern Plains on Monday in an outbreak of violent weather that killed five people, tossed cars off highways, flipped mobile homes and sent baseball-size hail crashing through windshields, officials said. Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management spokesman Jerry Lojka said two people were killed Oklahoma City and three were killed in Cleveland County, which is south of the city. The agency did not have any additional details, including how the people died. Officials reported that at least 58 others suffered injuries throughout Oklahoma in the daylong onslaught. Two of the injuries were critical. In some neighborhoods in Oklahoma City, emergency workers were going door to door to make sure everyone was accounted for.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Toyota Prius tops Japan's April auto sales

TOKYO (AP)—Toyota's Prius hybrid was Japan's top-selling car in April, clinching the No. 1 spot for the 12th straight month. The Japan Automobile Dealers Association said Tuesday that Toyota Motor Corp. sold 26,482 of the gas-electric vehicles in Japan last month. The Prius, now in its third generation since its 1997 introduction, is the best-selling hybrid in the world, with a total of 1.74 million sold worldwide, according to Toyota. The vehicle is so popular in Japan that it has a six-month waiting list.

Oil hovers below \$77 a barrel as traders eye euro
SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices

Asia

Aquino opens up commanding lead in RP vote

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The son of Philippine democracy icon Corazon Aquino had a wide lead Tuesday in presidential elections after campaigning on a promise to restore the government's credibility by prosecuting corrupt officials.

Despite glitches with new computerized counting machines and violence that claimed at least nine lives, election officials hailed Monday's vote as a success in a country where poll fraud allegations have marred previous contests.

Sen. Benigno Aquino III—whose father was assassinated while opposing a dictatorship and whose mother led the “people power” revolt that restored freedoms—was leading the nine-candidate presidential race with 40.19 percent of the votes from about 78 percent of the precincts, while his closest rival, ousted President Joseph Estrada, had 25.46 percent.

There is no runoff in the Philippines, and whoever has the most votes is declared winner.

In his first public remarks after Monday's vote, Aquino thanked Filipinos for the huge support and said he would deliver on a campaign promise to fight corruption and government malaise.

“I will not only not steal, but I'll have the corrupt arrested,” Aquino told a news conference in his northern home province of Tarlac.

In a bid to save money, Aquino told The Associated Press that he will avoid



Presidential candidate Sen. Benigno “Noy” Aquino III smiles as he holds his ballot in the country's first ever automated presidential elections, Monday May 10, 2010, at Hacienda Luisita, Tarlac province in northern Philippines.

foreign trips and trim the Cabinet, adding he hopes the days when Filipinos have to resort to street protests to ad-

dress government ills are over.

Aquino's sudden political rise has bolstered hopes among his support-

ers for a clean leadership after nine years of a scandal-tainted administration that was rocked by coup attempts and protests.

He campaigned on a strong anti-graft platform, promising to start prosecuting corrupt officials within weeks of his election and restore integrity to Congress and the judiciary. It was only after former President Corazon Aquino died of cancer last August that her son, a quiet 50-year-old lawmaker and bachelor, decided to run, spurred by the massive outpouring of national grief for the leader who helped oust longtime dictator Ferdinand Marcos in the 1986 “people power” revolt that restored democracy to the Philippines. She had inherited the mantle of her husband, Benigno Aquino Jr., an opposition senator gunned down by soldiers at Manila's airport in 1983 upon return from U.S. exile to challenge Marcos.

Aquino's closest political lieutenant, former Education Secretary Florencio Abad, said he rode on the crest of a national yearning for an honest leader after corruption scandals under outgoing President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

“This means he really has to deal with the problem of corruption and deal with the people identified with nine years of corruption,” Abad told The Associated Press.

“The other thing that he needs to do is to translate the dividends of good governance into direct benefits for the

poor — education, health, food, lower prices, jobs, basic services,” he said.

Some of Aquino's opponents carried the taint of scandal. The popularity ratings of Sen. Manny Villar, a real estate developer-turned-politician who was neck-and-neck with Aquino in early surveys, plunged after rivals accused him of using his position to enrich himself and avoid a Senate ethics probe.

Villar conceded defeat Tuesday and congratulated Aquino, saying he wanted to work with him to help deal with the enormous challenges facing the Philippines.

“It's clear that despite our efforts, we were not gifted with victory in Monday's elections. I respect the voice of the people,” he told a news conference.

Estrada, who largely draws support from the poor, jumped to overtake Villar as No. 2. The former action movie star was removed from office in 2001 and subsequently convicted on corruption charges. He was later pardoned by Arroyo, and he said he decided to run again to clear his name.

Flamboyant former first lady Imelda Marcos also ran for a House seat, as did boxing star Manny Pacquiao. “Pacman” was leading in the count in the southern province of Sarangani, where only about half of 300,000 registered voters cast ballots due to a daylong downpour, election official Michael Abas said.

Report: Sand for Singapore devastating ecology

BANGKOK (AP)—Cambodia is devastating its coast by dredging vast quantities of sand to sell to tiny Singapore for expansion projects, with multimillion-dollar profits going to tycoons close to the Cambodian prime minister, a watchdog group said Tuesday.

Impoverished Cambodia has become the new prime source of the masses of sand used for projects to artificially enlarge Singapore's island territory now that several other Southeast Asian nations—including Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam—have banned sand exports because of environmental concerns.

Singapore has increased its surface area by 20 percent in recent decades by filling in coastal seabeds to create new, valuable waterfront ground, a process known as “land reclamation.”

London-based environmental watchdog Global Witness criticized Singapore for the practice, pointing out that

the wealthy island city-state at the same time “presents itself as a regional leader on environmental issues.”

“The country's failure to mitigate the social and ecological cost of sand dredging represents hypocrisy on a grand scale,” Global Witness said in a report released Tuesday.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen last year announced a blanket ban on sand exports following local protests, but the Global Witness investigation said the country continues to supply Singapore with tens of thousands of tons of sand dredged up from rivers and estuaries along the fragile coastline.

Operations from just one Cambodian province were estimated to be worth \$248 million annually in retail value in Singapore, the group said.

Cambodia's law on sand actually banned only river sand from export, but Global Witness said its investi-

gators found that both river and sea sand have been exported since the law was passed.

Global Witness said the government has been “failing to ensure compliance with Cambodia's other environmental and socio-economic legal framework,” though a Cambodian government spokesman said that dredging is confined to areas where the environment would not be degraded.

Singapore's National Development Ministry said sand import is carried out by private enterprises, which must by law “not breach any of the source countries' environment rules and other relevant laws.”

The Cambodian sand trade, Global Witness said, is monopolized by two senators with close ties to Hun Sen “with no evidence of any revenues (from the exports) reaching Cambodia's state coffers.”

Floods kill 70 in southern China

BEIJING (AP)—Torrential rains caused by the El Nino weather phenomenon have swept across parts of southern China, toppling homes, destroying crops and killing at least 70 people, state media reported Tuesday. More flooding was expected.

Flooding caused by the heavy rains—which started a month earlier than normal—damaged more than 80,000 homes and damaging large swaths of cropland, affecting more than 10 million people across 13 provinces and cities, the State Flood Control and Disaster Relief Headquarters said on its website.

“South China has already entered its flood season, one month earlier than in past years. The biggest floods have yet to come,” Sun Jun of the National Meteorological Center was cited as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency.

The areas include the provinces of Guangdong, Chongqing, Sichuan, Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan and Zhejiang.

Sun said the extreme rains were caused by El Nino, which has linked hot, wet air from southern China with cooler air traveling south from northern China, according to Xinhua.

In some areas, such as Guangdong province, the thunderstorms have cut power lines, toppled homes and bridges, submerged roads and caused rivers to overflow, forcing the relocation of 145,000 people in less than a week, Xinhua said.

China's huge land mass means severe storms can cause floods in one region, while other parts of the country experience droughts.

Earlier this year, farmers in Yunnan and Guizhou were hit by the worst drought in a century. The drought, which has begun to subside as the region enters its rainy season, affected 61 million people, leaving millions without drinking water and ruining more than 10 million acres (4 million hectares) of crops.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Indonesia's ex-top detective questioned on bribery

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's former chief detective, who recently exposed a major corruption case involving government and police officials, has been detained on allegations that he accepted a bribe in 2008. Gen. Susno Duadji was detained and questioned for several hours Monday after it was alleged that he accepted as much as 500 million rupiah (\$55,000), said police spokesman Maj. Gen. Edward

Aritonang. The allegation relates to a dispute between two businessmen involved in a fish-breeding project in Riau province. A suspect in the case, Sjahril Djohan, accused Duadji of accepting the bribe while he was chief detective of the National Police Criminal Investigation Agency.

Missile barrage kills 14 in Pakistan tribal area

PARACHINAR, Pakistan (AP)—Up to 18 American missiles slammed into a Taliban sanctuary in Pakistan close

to the Afghan border Tuesday, killing 14 alleged insurgents in the third such strike since a failed car bombing in New York drew fresh attention to the region, officials said. The number of missiles fired into North Waziristan was unusually high, reflecting multiple targets. They struck cars, homes and tents across a wide area in the Doga area, where insurgents have hideouts and training facilities, two intelligence officials said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media. The identities of the

people killed in the attack were not immediately known.

Hopes raised for end of protests in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's deputy prime minister met with police investigators Tuesday in a bow to demands by protesters that he face possible criminal charges before they end their two-month-old occupation of Bangkok's prime commercial district. The Red Shirt protesters said Monday they would continue their crippling dem-

onstration in central Bangkok until the prime minister and his deputy, Suthep Thaugsuban, surrendered to police to face possible charges for deadly street violence. No criminal charges are pending against either Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva or Suthep, who has led the government's security response to the protests that erupted March 12, but both expressed willingness to meet with police. Nattawut Saikua, a protest leader, has blamed Suthep for violence during protests that has left 29 people dead and hundreds injured.

World

UK's Gordon Brown to resign as prime minister

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown made a dramatic bid to keep his beleaguered Labour Party in power after it was punished in elections last week, announcing Monday he will resign by September at the latest even if the Liberal Democrats—being wooed by the Conservatives—decide to join his party in government.

The political theater, played out in front of the iconic black door of No. 10 Downing Street, comes as David Cameron's Conservatives—which won the most seats in Parliament but fell short of a majority—struggled in their attempts to win over the third-place Liberal Democrats.

Brown's party has been willing to entertain supporting the Liberal Democrats' demand for an overhaul of the voting system toward proportional representation, which would greatly increase that party's future seat tallies. But the evening brought a further twist with a counteroffer from the Conservatives—a referendum on a less dramatic type of electoral reform.

While uncertainty prevails, to the displeasure of the markets, one thing appears certain: The career of Brown—the Treasury chief who waited a decade in the wings for his chance to become prime minister—is wind-

ing to an end.

Brown, looking statesmanlike but resigned to political reality, accepted blame for Labour's loss of 91 seats in last week's election and its failure to win a parliamentary majority.

No other party won outright either, resulting in the first "hung Parliament" since 1974 and triggering a frantic scramble between Brown's Labour and the main opposition Conservatives to broker a coalition—or at least an informal partnership—with the Liberal Democrats.



Brown

"As leader of my party, I must accept that that is a judgment on me," Brown said, offering to step down before the party conference in September.

Brown said Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg had asked to begin formal coalition talks with the Labour Party and said he believed their parties might form a center-left alliance. Clegg had previously suggested Brown's departure would likely be a condition of any deal with Labour.

The Liberal Democrats have seemed genuinely open to a deal

with the Conservatives—who are less ideologically compatible with Clegg's party than Labour is—largely out of a sense that Cameron won a moral mandate and supporting him was expected by the nation at a time of economic turmoil.

But Brown's statement appeared to give Clegg's party a viable alternative, and real temptation: join a possibly short-lived alliance, remove the unpopular Brown, and pass electoral reform that could transform their fortunes and even banish the Conservatives to the political wilderness for many years.

The day's drama disappointed those hoping for a swift resolution and deepened the post-election limbo that many feared could further undermine confidence in Europe's financial markets. The pound fell nearly 1.5 cents against the dollar after Brown's statement on his future, trading at \$1.4866 late Monday.

Belying morning optimism and buoyant statements by party spokesmen, the Liberal Democrats announced by afternoon that they hadn't yet reached an agreement with the Conservatives on education funding, fair taxation and electoral reform. Then came Brown's offer.

WORLD BRIEFS

Toll for devastating Iraq attacks rises to 119

BAGHDAD (AP)—The death toll for a devastating day of attacks across Iraq rose to 119 on Tuesday as the worst hit cities of Basra and Hilla south of Baghdad reported new deaths from bombings the previous day, the country's deadliest so far this year. The medical official at the Basra morgue said 30 people died, nearly twice as many as were originally reported, in the string of three bombings that ripped through the city on Monday, part of a series of attacks that convulsed the country. In Hilla, which saw Monday's worst attack, police spokesman Maj. Muthana Khalid said five more people had died, raising the toll there to 50 dead. A pair of car bombs near a factory lured rescuers and onlookers to the scene where a suicide bomber detonated himself in their midst. The relentless cascade of bombings and shootings—hitting at least 10 cities and towns as the day unfolded—raised questions about whether Iraqi security forces can protect the country as the U.S. prepares to withdraw half of its remaining 92,000 troops in Iraq over the next four months.

Protesters blast Haiti president's quake response

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Police fired tear gas outside the ruins of Haiti's national palace Monday to control 2,000 demonstrators calling for President Rene Preval's resignation in the largest political protest since the Jan. 12 earthquake. Trucks filled with riot police rolled behind the protesters as they jogged past tarps and shanties shouting insults at Preval, who has been criticized for his low profile following the quake and for allegedly using the destruction as a pretext to stay in office beyond his term. "He is profiting from this disaster in order to stay in power," said Herve Santilus, 39, a sociologist who was laid off a few weeks after the magnitude-7 quake struck and has not been able to find work since. Many demonstrators identified themselves as supporters of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was exiled to Africa aboard a U.S. plane during a 2004 rebellion. Protesters marched to the national mall following speaker trucks that trumpeted calls for Aristide's return.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Office of the Secretary of Public Works

ENERGY DIVISION

P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480 / Fax No. (670) 664-4483 / email: Energy@pticom.com

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division will be conducting a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) State Plan for Program Year 2010 funding.

The general public as well as interested parties are welcome to comment on the proposed State Plan. The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division, Capital Hill, House # 1337, May 27, 2010 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A copy of the State Plan can be picked up at the Energy Division on Monday, May 17, 2010.

For those who are unable to attend the public hearing in person, you may submit your written comments to the Energy Division, Capital Hill, House #1337, Saipan, or can be e-mailed to: energy@pticom.com or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan MP 96950 on or before close of business on Friday, June 4, 2010.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Energy Division at 664-4480/1.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Ghatchúl falúw kka falúwach Efáng Marianas mellól bwulasiyool Sów Lemelem fengal me alillisil Bwulasiyool Public Works/Energy Dibision yeel nge ebwe arongowow (hearing) bwelle ebwe bweibwogh aghiyeghiir toulap reel pomwol Progróomal Weatherization Assistance (WAP) plonool State reel fundóol 2010 llól ráagh yeel.

Toulapeer aramas me schóókka re tipeli nge emmwel rebwe ayeghilong reel pomwol State Plan yeel. Arongorong yeel nge rebwe ayoora me Energy Division, Capital Hill, House # 1337, Ghúúw (May) 17, 2010.

Schóókka rese tawe rebwe fiti arong yeel, emmwel schagh ubwe isschilong mááfiyomw reel Energy Division, Capital Hill, House # 1337, Seipél: me ngäre e-mail ngáli: energy@pticom.com me mail reel P.O. Box 500340, Seipél, MP 96950 wóol me ngäre mmwal igha ebwe titiló ótol angaang wóol Bennis, Alimate (June) 4,2010.

Ngäre eyoor yóomw ayegh, faingi Energy Division reel 664-4488/1

HINEKUNGOK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sankattan na Islas Marianas siha gi Ofisinan Gobetnu yan i ko'operawson i Dipattamenton Che'cho' Pupbliku/Dibision Energy para u makondukta i hinekungok pupbliku ni para u marisibi imfotmasion siha gi i mapropone na Prográman Inasisten Weatherization (WAP) State Plan para i fondon i Prográma gi sakkán 2010.

Komu kontodu i pupbliku henerát yan i manggai interes na pattida siha manmasosohyo' na u fanna'halom imfotmasion gi State Plan ni mapropone. I hinekungok pupbliku para u makondukta guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capital Hill, Numiron Guma' 1337, gi Mayu 27, 2010 ginen alas kuátro imedia (4:30) gi despues di talo' áni asta oran alas singko imedia (5:30) gi pupuengi.

I kopian i State Plan sina machuchule' gi Dibision Energy gi Lunes, Mayu 17, 2010.

Para todú ayu siha i manchatsaga umatende i hinekungok henerát, siña un sabmiti i tinige' imfetmasion guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capital Hill, Numiron Guma' 1337, Saipan; pat siña un email guatu gi: energy@pticom.com. Pat na' hãnao guatu gi P.O. Box 500340, Saipan MP 96950 gi pat ántes di u machuchom i ha'ánen bisnes gi Betnes, Huniu 4, 2010.

Yanggen guaha kuestion-mu-siha, pot fabot á'agang i Dibision Energy gi 664-4480/1

Saipan, Tinian and Rota!

Join us this SATURDAY morning, MAY 15, for a fun-filled walk with PSS!

LIVE HEALTHY:
Life Walk
with
PSS.

Registration Information:

Saipan: 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – I3 Fisherman Pavilion

Tinian: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Tachog'na Beach

Rota: 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Téteto Beach

Campus Life

SSHS students read and watch *The Last Song*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School students enjoy their special screening of the movie *The Last Song* at the Hollywood Theater.

Over 200 Saipan Southern High School students read the book and watched the movie *The Last Song* by Nicholas Sparks for the book movie tie-in project, *Last Song Knowledge Building Project* on April 24 at the Hollywood Theaters.

The project involved creating a Web site that allowed students, teachers and school librarian to work collaboratively using various Web 2.0 tools. Students posted their chapter summaries through the Google Doc spreadsheet and shared the synthesis with everyone.

Students were also introduced to

Wallwisher, an online forum that hosts students to post and interact with other students' comments in real time.

Finally, students had an opportunity to post their thoughts and comments on the Saipan Southern Readers Blog about their learning experience.

All of the online tools allowed the students to post their work anonymously. Saipan Southern High School Library's Facebook provides all the links for these collaborative tools and the project's Web site. (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saipan/Saipan->



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Freshmen students collaborating in *The Last Song* Knowledge Building Center online.

Southern-High-School-Library).

Jacinta Clemon, Paul Muira's freshmen English classes and SSHS Book Club worked closely with the school librarian, Sudi Napalan.

"Surprisingly, there were great reactions from students about this whole project. Most of them had a pleasant experience reading the book and the movie field trip provided a lot of our visual learners an excellent representation of their reading," Napalan said.

"Book movie tie-ins are becoming more popular and I think it's a prime time for educators to catch the students interest especially these particular media tie-ins," Napalan adds.

The *Last Song Knowledge Building Project* is the highlight of this year's School Library Month celebration. Special thanks to Saipan Southern High principal Craig Garrison, Clemon, Muira, Tasi Tours, and Hollywood Theaters staff and management for their continued support to this project. (PR)

GES also marks Teacher Appreciation Week

The Garapan Elementary School would like to thank the teachers who have given themselves daily to ensure that our students are provided a challenging, fun, clean, and safe learning environment. Happy Appreciation Week, Mallards!

Thank you to the PTA who has provided daily surprises in teacher's boxes. Barney's Pizza for the morning coffee and light breakfast every morning. The administration for the basket of goodies each afternoon.

GES teachers were treated to a daily raffle that included a professional de-

velopment book and two gift certificates to Dolphin and Bestseller bookstore. Last Wednesday, the library was transformed into a spa where teachers were able to get a massage during their prep period.

"We know that there is no adequate way to thank our teacher for the myriad things they do each and every day, but we hope they know how loved and appreciated they are for truly creating a family of learners right here at Garapan Elementary School. We love you teachers!" said the school administration. (PR)

NMC Summer 2010 Calendar

The Northern Marianas College has announced the following academic dates for the Summer 2010 Semester:

Regular summer session:

May 24 – July 23, 2010 (9 Weeks)

- May 19 – 21: Registration (9am – 6pm)
- May 24: First Day of Instruction
- May 24 – 26: Add/Drop Days
- May 31: Legal Holiday (Memorial Day)
- June 1: Last Day for 80 percent refund
- June 4: Last Day of 40 percent refund
- June 11: Last Day to Withdraw
- July 5: Legal Holiday (Liberation Day)
- July 22: Last Day of Instruction
- July 23: Final Exam

Extended summer session:

May 26 – Aug. 14, 2010 (12 Weeks)

- May 19 – 21: Registration (9am – 6pm)
- May 24: First Day of Instruction
- May 24 – 26: Add/Drop Days
- May 31: Legal Holiday (Memorial Day)
- June 4: Last Day for 80 percent refund

- June 11: Last Day for 40 percent refund
- June 18: Last Day to Withdraw
- July 5: Legal Holiday (Liberation Day)
- Aug. 12: Last Day of Instruction
- Aug. 13: Final Exam

SUMMER SESSION I:

May 24 – July 2, 2010 (6 Weeks)

- May 19 – 21: Registration (9am – 6pm)
- May 24: First Day of Instruction
- May 24 – 26: Add/Drop Days
- May 28: Last Day for 80 percent refund
- May 31: Legal Holiday (Memorial Day)
- June 2: Last Day for 40 percent refund
- June 4: Last Day to Withdraw
- July 1: Last Day of Instruction
- July 2: Final Exam

SUMMER SESSION II:

July 6 – August 13, 2010 (6 Weeks)

- May 19 – July 2: Registration (9am – 6pm)
- May 31: Legal Holiday (Memorial Day)
- July 5: Legal Holiday (Liberation Day)
- July 6: First Day of Instruction
- July 6 – 8: Add/Drop Days
- July 12: Last Day for 80 percent refund
- July 14: Last Day for 40 percent refund
- July 16: Last Day to Withdraw
- Aug. 12: Last Day of Instruction
- Aug. 13: Final Exam

Dandan Elementary School appreciates its teachers



All throughout the school year, teachers are busy planning, instructing, caring for, and nurturing their students to ensure that each child receives the best quality education they deserve. Oftentimes teachers are not recognized for the many wonderful things they do for our children each day.

Last May 3-7, 2010 was Teacher Appreciation Week. Having this week designated for teachers was the least that, we, as a school, can do to honor these dynamic individuals.

As a way to show teachers at DES that they are appreciated, the administration and students organized a week full of surprises for the hardworking teachers and teacher aides. These included scheduling special activities for each day of the week.

Who are our teachers?

Kinder:

Ms. Chasmyn Apatang
Mrs. Rose Pangelinan

1st Grade:

Ms. Tess Camcho
Mrs. Vivian Skilang
Ms. Elaine Cabrera
Mrs. Ramona Taro-Laniyo

2nd Grade:

Ms. Zinna Agulto
Mrs. Valencia Flores-Tasi
Mrs. Mercedes DeLeonGuerrero

3rd Grade:

Ms. Judith Castro
Ms. Ashley Sikayun
Ms. Blossom Inos

4th Grade:

Ms. SiAna Echalluse
Ms. Kate Borja
Mr. Juan Cuellar

5th Grade:

Mr. William Harwood
Mrs. Rachel Reyes
Mrs. May Cruz

6th Grade:

Ms. Eloise Leon Guerrero
Mrs. Antonnette Laniyo
Mr. James Ramon

Special Education Contact Teacher:

Mr. Paul Joyce

K-6 Counselor/Teacher:

Ms. Christine A. Inos

Reading Resource Teachers

Ms. Mana Ling
Mrs. Elizabeth Church

Teacher Aides:

Mrs. Caroline Agulto
Ms. Janet Cabrera
Mrs. Cabrini Celina Hambros
Mr. Joey Mostales
Ms. Jemma Manibo
Mr. Patrick Antonio
Ms. Sophia Sablan
Mrs. Amorleen Poblete
Mr. Danyo Jack
Mr. McQueen Masaharu

Administration:

Principal: Ms. Martha Kintol
Vice Principal: Mr. Reo Arriola

Support Staff:

Ms. Jessica Borja
Ms. Cathy Borja
Ms. Tina Teregeyo
Ms. Maria Nakamura

Tradesmen:

Mr. Abel Valenzuela
Mr. Nelson Ebilane

Life & Style

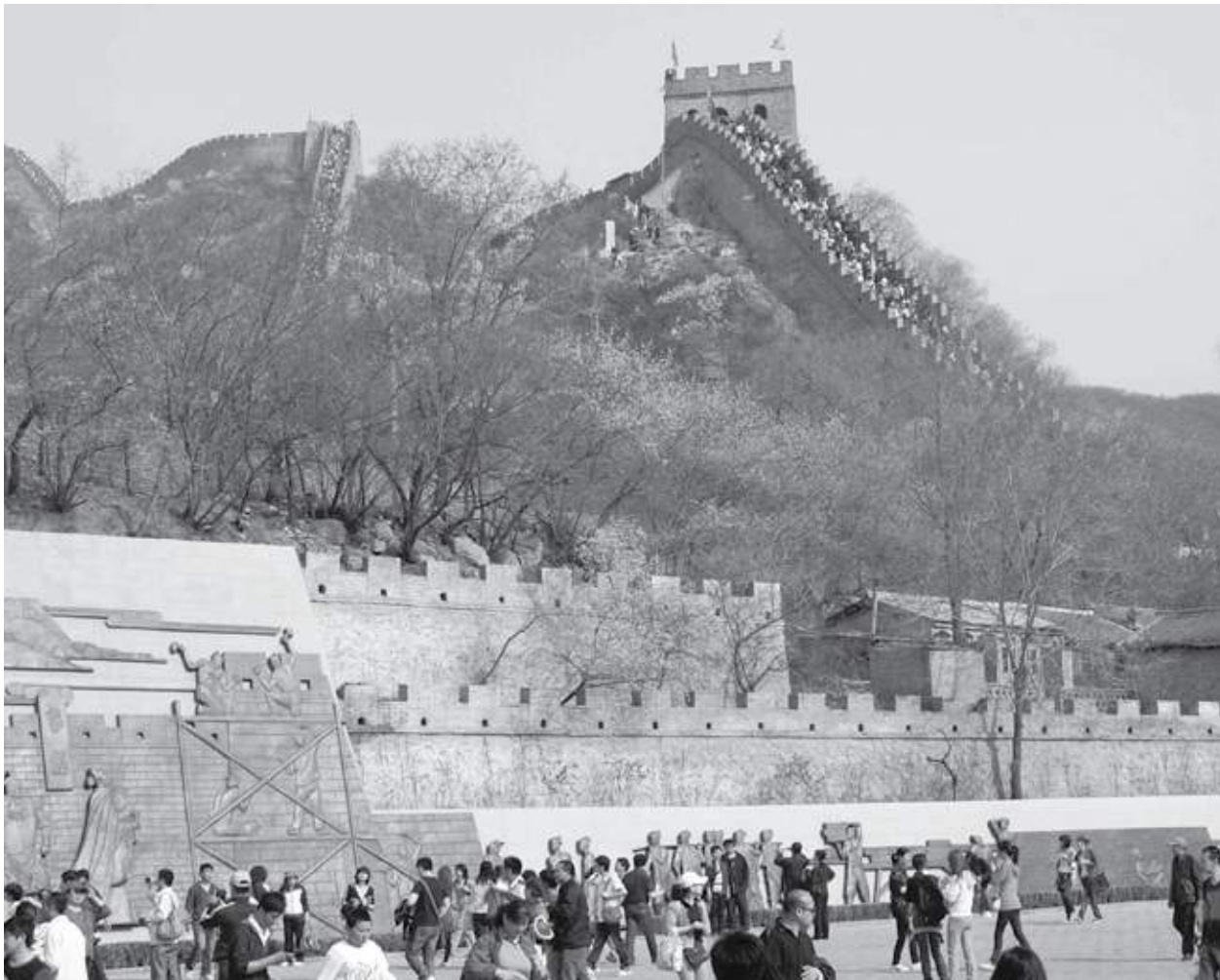
It was before 8am when we got to Badaling but half of China appeared to have arrived before us and the other half was just arriving. The steps of both side of the Shuiguan Great Wall were full of local tourists. Mothers clung to sons, and daughters led fathers by the nose. More than any other part of the world, particularly among the obedient one-child families, the children in China are lords. But we are ahead of our story.

The train ride to Beijing was about 3,000 km that took a good 24 hours. From Guilin a few kilometers north of Nanning in Guangxi, it looks like a roundabout way to *Dong Bei* (the Northeast, old Manchuria) where I was headed but it was actually faster since “all roads and rails lead to Beijing.” It was the onset of one of the three Golden Week holidays in China each year, this one for labor, so the population was on the move.

The overnight train that left the karsts country of Guangxi went through Mao's province of Hunan where the soil is remarkably red, though that had no influence on *The East is Red* stage propaganda during Mao's time. Those of us who grew up in the '60s global student upheavals, pictures of mobile red and green among exuberant singers prancing and marching on stage was an attractive psycho-drama in raising consciousness of the oppressed! My brother once sang the Pinoy students' *Bangon* in Australia to the tune of *Internationale*, oblivious of its musical and political origins.

There was not much of Hubei to see in the dark and the Yangtze at Wuhan would have been impressive in the day as international passenger boats ply the Three Gorges Dam, but not this trip. It was still dark when we crossed one of China's two long rivers. Industrial Henan and Hebei, fed by China's coal mines, were understandably overcast, not with humidity but with air pollution. The tree planting in the fields was not sufficient to keep the air from being heavy with soot. Happily, it was the spring season for the *ying hua* (cherry blossoms) and the pink magnolias, and the winter wheat was already more than a foot high, so there was color and fragrance in the field, but the coal-fired factories and power plants were just too many for Mother Nature to handle. It was evident even among the population who wore gauze surgical masks for nasal defense.

The last time we took this rail line



Local tourists were early at the Shuiguan section of the Badaling Great Wall on the second day of the May Golden Labor week of China, scaling the heights and getting a whiff of the wafting fragrance of the white and pink *tao hua* on the hillside.

JAIME VERGARA

China Trails 7: Bad landing in Badaling

By JAIME VERGARA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

was a decade ago. Shijiazhuang and Baoding were rail stops with Russian-style socialist square boxes for buildings. Now the skyscrapers are competing for top air-ness as the new rail lines (a Beijing-Guangzhou dedicated rail for the superfast CHR D-train is on fast track, pun very much intended, compared to the snail's pace of the U.S. eastern seaboard's superfast train development timeline), superhighways, and many cities' circumferential roads race toward completion.

Getting to Beijingxi Rail Station late afternoon in a drizzle was pleasant; the

massive facelift and air cleanup that the city went through for the 2008 Olympics paid off. We were last here before the Lunar New Year early this year so I was not inclined to linger longer than necessary. But I took a 24-hour break before proceeding Northeast, arranging for a visit to the Great Wall in Badaling, which we visited in 1989.

The Wall at the time was in sad disrepair and to the credit of the Wall's original construction, it stood well the test of time. The Badaling bus gate was a makeshift hole on the wall, widened to accommodate vehicles full of gawkers

coming to China after Deng Xiaoping opened the Bamboo Curtain. A ready camel crouched on the ground to be mounted by a tourist for a ¥5 photo op per customer. Our group had sole presence on the Wall, and despite the chill of November, we took enthused youthful strides.

This time, I decided to scrimp on tour cost, and took the resident tour rather than the costly English-narrated one. It was a grievous mistake. I was taken to another sight, the Shuiguan (Water Pass) Great Wall, also in Badaling that was repaired and opened in 1995 to ac-

commodate local tours while the old site catered to international visitors.

The Shuiguan section does have nearby the “Commune by the Great Wall” managed by Kempinski, the Swiss-run Thai-majority-owned European hotel chain. Composed of artistic villas designed by 12 architects from Asia, it was dubbed a “New Architectural Wonder of China” in 2005. At \$400 per night, it was not exactly in our price range to overnight and drink our *bai jiu* by candlelight specially since we were traveling solo, but it would have been a good site to visit. In any case, since I choose to *chow* my *mein* with the proletariat, I hardly expected to waterhole with the aristocrats!

Where I was driven and required to visit were four commercial shops that marketed handicraft jewelry, packaged Beijing *kao ya* (Peking Duck), assorted dried nuts and preserved meats, and memorabilia of the Ming tombs. The marketing pitch sounded OK but given the brevity of my *Putunghua*, the briefings were foreign to me! I did look forward to revisiting *Changling* and *Dingling*, two of 13 tombs of emperors in the necropolis of Ming rulers north of Beijing. Needless to say, we did not even get to step into the promenade of lined animal statues that lead to one of the mausoleums. We were caught in holiday traffic gridlock, and at most, a normal six-hour tour turned into 12.

The *coup de disgrace* was a stop at Nankuo on a small patch of desolate land of soil and gravel quarries that was a sorry site meant to represent Lhasa and its famed Potala palace. The badly stupa-lined road choked my anger and rage into profound grief, especially since I mentioned in an article earlier that Hu Jin Tao promoted Buddhism while heading the administration of Tibet, and I was severely questioned by one of the Dalai Lama's supporters in India. At the site, Hu Jin Tao's photo was on display but I wonder if he is aware at all of how dismal and neglected the site appears to visitors. It is probably not very frequently visited by foreigners. In spite of the fragrant pink and white *tao hua* that blanketed the countryside, and the orchards of blossoming cherries and peaches around the Ming tombs, Badaling and its environs this day did not do justice by me for all I've written about the China of post-Deng Xiaoping. May Zhou Enlai rest his soul!

I quickly got to the train station and headed out of town toward *Dong Bei*.

NYC house where Capote lived is on sale for \$18M

NEW YORK (AP)—The Brooklyn town house where Truman Capote wrote “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” and other notable works is on sale for \$18 million.

Sotheby's International Realty agent Karen Heyman said Monday that the building is expected to break sales records as one of the most expensive townhouses in the borough.

She said the Brooklyn Heights house is on the market for the first time in 70 years. Built in 1839, the house has 11 bedrooms, a finished basement with a wine cellar and a 2,500-square-foot garden.

Capote rented a basement apartment from Broadway art director Oliver Smith for 10 years in the 1950s and 1960s. The author wrote an essay, “A House on the Heights,” based on his experiences in the neighborhood.

Barbara Walters to have heart valve surgery

NEW YORK (AP)—Barbara Walters said she will have surgery to replace a faulty heart valve later this week and take the summer off from “The View” to recuperate.

The television legend made the announcement on the air Monday. She said she's known about her condition for a while, and decided with her doctors that this is the best time to have the heart surgery done.

“Since the summer is coming up,” she said, “I can take a nice vacation.”

Walters, 80, is one of the best-known personalities in television news. She began on the “Today” show, was the first woman to anchor a network evening news program, then was one of the toughest competitors in the fierce game of landing sought-after interviews.

At a time others would be slowing down, she invented “The View” in 1997 and the daily talk

show with a woman's round-table is a staple on daytime TV. She said earlier this year she was giving up her annual interview special with actors that traditionally preceded the Academy Awards.

She said her condition would be a surprise to many friends. “But I thought it best not to talk about it too far in advance,” she said.

Walters said she had not felt any symptoms from the narrowing of the heart valve, which can worsen and restrict the flow of blood to the heart. There are four heart valves, and they can be surgically replaced by a mechanical valve, an animal valve or human organ from a donor.

“There's no denying that this is serious surgery,” said ABC News President David Westin. “But it's

also a type of surgery that has been done often and successfully. and, as those of us who work with Barbara know, she's in excellent condition. So we have every reason to expect a great result and a speedy recovery.”

Walters said recovery generally takes one to three months, mostly involving regaining strength.

Former First Lady Barbara Bush and comic Robin Williams had heart valve replacement surgery last year.

Whoopi Goldberg, her co-host on “The View,” asked if she was scared.

She said no and pointed to how it has become more commonplace, but said, “Look, nobody wants to have this kind of surgery.”



Walters

Pecan pie takes the cake at events large and small

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Years ago you published your recipe for Abby's Famous Pecan Pie. I cut it out and made it often because it was the best pecan pie I ever tasted.

Somehow I have misplaced my recipe. I have come across other ones, but not yours. Would you be so kind as to reprint it in your column? I have committed to bringing a couple of pies to an upcoming event. It would mean a lot to me to be able to use it again. I know everyone who tastes it will agree that it's the best they have ever eaten.

RUBY IN LAKEWOOD, WASH.

DEAR RUBY: I have no doubt that they will. Years ago, a male reader informed me that a festival had been held in his community, part of which was a pie baking contest. "To the delight of my wife and friends," he wrote, "and the chagrin of the other contestants—all women—I took first prize." The recipe he had used was one my mother, Pauline Phillips, had printed in this column.

My mother had a notorious sweet tooth and had discovered the pie while a guest at the Phoenix Hotel in Lexington, Ky. (The hotel has since been demolished.) The recipe had been created by the hotel's pastry chef, who kindly shared it with her. Because one good turn deserves another—here it is:

ABBY'S FAMOUS PECAN PIE

9-inch unbaked pie crust
1 cup light corn syrup
1 cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
3 eggs, slightly beaten
1/3 cup butter, melted
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 heaping cup pecan halves

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.

2. In a large bowl, combine corn syrup, sugar, eggs, butter, salt and vanilla; mix well. Pour into unbaked pie crust; sprinkle with pecan halves.

3. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes or until center is set. (Toothpick inserted in center will come out clean when pie is done.) If the crust or pie appears to be getting too brown, cover with foil for the remaining baking time. Cool.

You can top with a bit of whipped cream, but even plain, nothing tops this!

Readers, this recipe is included in my set of cookbooklets, which contains more than 100 mouthwatering recipes for soups, salads, appetizers, main courses and desserts. Some readers have told me they used them to host Dear Abby-themed dinner parties. The set can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

TIP: The original recipe stated that the pie should be baked 45 to 50 minutes in a preheated 350-degree gas oven. If an electric oven is used, it may be necessary to add 15 to 20 minutes to the baking time. (Begin testing the pie with a toothpick after 45 minutes.) Enjoy!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Dear Abby

Sept. 11 statue in Md. to be auctioned on eBay

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (AP)—A 40-foot sculpture in rural Maryland of three New York City firefighters raising the U.S. flag at ground zero is being offered on eBay, but there's a catch: You can't take it home.

Bidding on the towering tribute to heroes of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks will start Wednesday and end May 22, said Pat Huddleston, a Marietta, Ga., attorney who is the court-appointed receiver in an investment fraud case involving the sculpture. The auction will start at \$500,000, he said.

Huddleston said proceeds from the Internet auction will benefit defrauded investors. The buyer will be recognized on a plaque as having donated the statue to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, a congressionally chartered nonprofit in Emmitsburg that memorializes fire heroes and offers counseling and scholarships to their families.

"It's a disgrace that such a symbolic memorial, which represents the best of America, is caught in the middle of a corporate scandal," Huddleston said. "We are hoping to bring honor back to the memorial by rededicating it, but first we need a willing donor who would like to become the new benefactor."

Huddleston turned to eBay after trying for more than two years to sell the bronze-and-steel statue for at least \$425,000. The highest offer he got was \$10,000. Sculptor Stanley J. Watts of Kearns, Utah, valued the piece in 2006 at \$4.8 million.

Huddleston speculated that the financial meltdown deterred would-be buyers, and that some balked be-



In a Monday, Nov. 5, 2007 file photo, the U.S. flag flies on the Sept. 11 National Memorial at the National Emergency Training Center after its unveiling in Emmitsburg, Md.

cause the money wouldn't aid the Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Huddleston said he pitched the piece to corporations and even tried contacting producers of the firefighter-themed FX television series "Rescue Me."

The work was dedicated in 2007

at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park on the grounds of the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, about 70 miles north of Washington. It must stay there under Watts' agreement with the foundation.

The piece was commissioned by

Coadum Advisors Inc., which the Securities and Exchange Commission alleged in 2008 fraudulently raised \$30 million from more than 150 investors in a Ponzi scheme—illegally using money from new investors to pay earlier ones. The SEC says Coadum paid Watts \$300,000 to sculpt the piece and then donated it to the Fallen Firefighters as a tax dodge.

In January, a federal judge in Atlanta ordered Coadum principals James A. Jeffery and Thomas A. Repke to pay restitution and fines totaling \$8.2 million. They didn't acknowledge guilt in their settlement deal.

Fallen Firefighters Executive Director Ronald J. Siarnicki wondered if anyone will bid. He said all the foundation's corporate backers have refused to contribute dollars that would benefit defrauded investors, not fire heroes' families.

"It's unfortunate we got stuck in this project to begin with," Siarnicki said. "It started with the best of intentions and unfortunately someone decided they could make some money off of it."

Watts, who wasn't part of the alleged fraud, said he just wants the statue to stay in Emmitsburg, where the foundation holds an annual memorial service.

He said he created the piece, titled, "To Lift a Nation," to honor the 343 New York Fire Department workers who died trying to rescue victims of the terrorist attack.

"I've done my job, and my job was to memorialize those men who answered the call and ran up the stairs," he said.

Reality starlet pleads to burglarizing Bloom house

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A reality starlet accused of burglarizing Orlando Bloom's house pleaded no contest Monday to felony burglary and was sentenced to up to six months in county jail after reaching a deal with prosecutors.

Alexis Neiers, 18, an aspiring model who has been the subject of the E! Entertainment Television reality show "Pretty Wild," entered the plea shortly before her trial was slated to begin. Bloom, star of the "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Lord of the Rings" film franchises, had been expected to testify.

As part of the deal, Neiers was sentenced to three years of formal probation and six months in county jail for the July break-in. She also

agreed to stay away from Bloom and his Hollywood Hills home.

She will begin serving her sentence June 24. She had rejected plea deals that required jail time but was facing up to six years in state prison if convicted at trial.

She could be sent to state prison for two years if she violates probation, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Peter Espinoza said.

"After lengthy considerations and fighting the best pretrial fight we could, we decided it was in Alexis' best interests to take responsibility for her small part in this incident," her attorney Jeffery K. Rubenstein said.

Neiers is among six people accused of targeting homes of celeb-

rities such as Paris Hilton, Lindsay Lohan and Rachel Bilson and stealing millions in jewelry, clothing and other luxury goods.

Some of the items pilfered from Bloom's home, including two expensive watches, have not been recovered. Neiers may be responsible for part of up to \$680,000 in restitution that may be ordered to be paid in the case, but her share may also be deemed minimal.

Three of the other people charged in the burglary at Bloom's home have not yet gone to trial. Neiers told police she was drunk when she went to the house and didn't take anything there.

Rubenstein said Neiers is planning to move on with her life and

will not have any involvement in the other burglary cases.

Rubenstein said Bloom's expected testimony was a factor in Neiers' plea.

Kravitz among headliners at Gulf Aid benefit

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Lenny Kravitz, Ani DiFranco and Mos Def are among the headliners for a benefit concert to support relief efforts for those affected by a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Kravitz, who lives part-time in New Orleans, was the first to sign up when asked by Rehage Entertainment president Steven Rehage to participate in Gulf Aid. Others participating are: Allen Toussaint, Zachary Richard, Jeremy Davenport and The Voice of the Wetlands Allstars, which features Dr. John and Cyril Neville.

The benefit concert will take place on Sunday at Mardi Gras World River City, which overlooks the Mississippi River in New Orleans. Tickets cost \$50.

Proceeds from the event will benefit fishermen and their families, whose livelihoods depend on the Gulf, and other organizations.

Mia Michaels, Adam Shankman to judge TV's 'SYTYCD'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oscar producer Adam Shankman and Emmy-winning choreographer Mia Michaels are coming back to TV's "So You Think You Can Dance."

Fox says the two choreographers will serve as judges on the seventh season of the reality dance compe-

tition, which premieres May 27.

Michaels, whose credits include "West Side Story" and stints with Madonna and Prince, has served as a guest judge and contributing choreographer on the Fox dance show since 2005.

Shankman directed the film ad-

NBC announces 'Chase,' an action drama, for fall

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC says it's picking up a new drama series called "Chase" for its fall schedule.

"Chase" is described as a game of cat and mouse with a team of U.S. marshals hunting down America's most dangerous fugitives. This action series comes

from the prolific executive producer Jerry Bruckheimer, known for his "CSI" franchise, "The Amazing Race" and the "Pirates of the Caribbean" films.

"Chase," announced Monday, joins "Undercovers," "The Event," "Love Bites" and "Outsourced" as

adaptation of "Hairspray" and has choreographed music videos for Whitney Houston, the B-52s, Barry White and Stevie Wonder.

Both will serve as the show's resident judges, alongside executive producer and co-creator Nigel Lythgoe.

NBC's fifth new scripted series ordered so far.

The official announcement date for NBC's fall lineup is May 17. That date kicks off the so-called Upfront Week, when all the major broadcast networks unveil their schedules for next season.

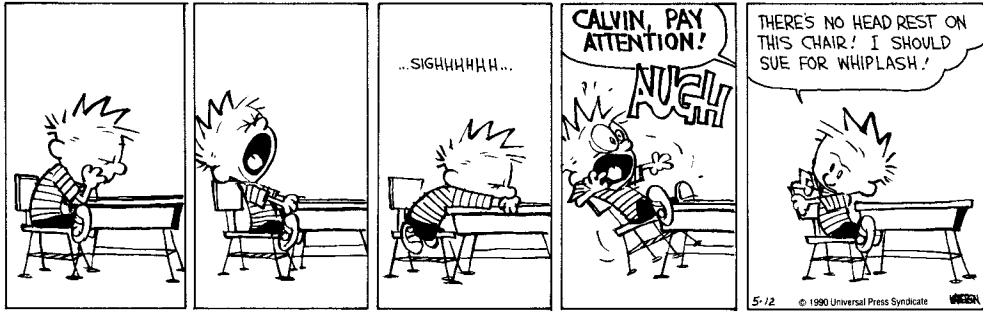
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

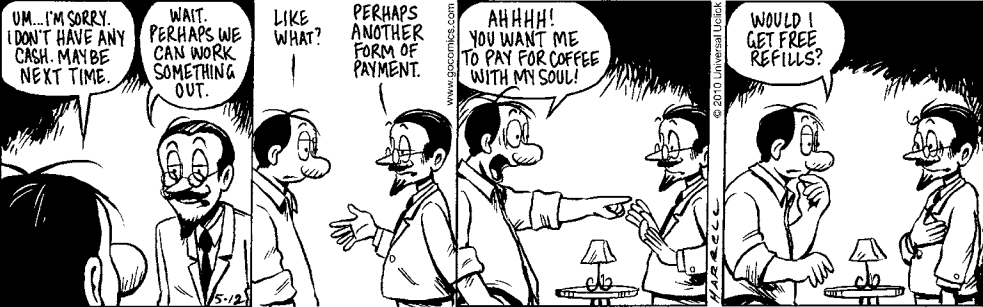


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Banned insecticide
4 Computer geek
8 Sharpen
12 Reaction to fireworks
13 Eye layer
14 Unusual
15 Ultra-modern (Pref.)
16 Home of MIT
18 Thin porridge
20 Held a meeting
21 Road Runner's sound
24 Type of golf club
28 Phnom Penh's country
32 Authentic
33 Undivided
34 Zeroes
36 Meadow
37 Barber-shop prop
39 "Wichita Lineman" singer
41 Massage
43 Addict

DOWN

1 Ding follower
2 Active one
3 Grand
4 Atomic bit
5 Actress Mendes
6 Sleep phenom
7 Slight touches
8 Author
9 Owned
10 Work unit plus
11 Shirt shape
17 Uncooked
19 Recede (Abbr.)
22 Learning (Abbr.)
23 Rice recipe (Var.)
25 Take out of context?
26 Food critic
27 Mideastern airline
28 Tilt, as the head
29 In due time
30 Unit of cultural information
31 Charitable donations
35 Ghost
38 No-goodnik
40 Sis' counterpart
42 Poorly lit
45 Black, in poetry
47 Filly's mom
48 The same, in a bibliography
49 Long-running true-crime TV show
50 Taxi
51 Past
52 Calendar abbr.
53 Compass dir.
54 HDTV maker

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	H	A	D	A	D	O	S	Y	I	P
H	O	U	R	G	I	R	T	O	D	E
Y	O	G	I	B	E	R	R	A	G	E
V	E	S	T	Y	E	A	S	T		
P	A	Y	E	E	O	P	E	C		
U	P	O	N	M	E	D	U	L	L	A
M	A	Y	P	I	V	O	T	A	B	C
P	R	O	M	I	S	E	R	O	S	L
D	U	E	T	B	E	S	E	T		
B	E	I	G	E	T	H	O			
A	L	E	Y	O	H	E	A	V	E	H
B	A	T	E	V	E	R	R	O	A	D
E	N	S	D	A	Y	S		E	N	D

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Biggs, 32; Tony Hawk, 42; Stephen Baldwin, 44; Emilio Estevez, 48

Happy Birthday: You will come up with solutions this year that will far surpass your expectations. Stick to your principles. You can resolve emotional and personal matters that have been building up for some time if you don't allow stubbornness to stand in your way. This is a year to make the changes you've been contemplating and to get on with life. Your numbers are 11, 13, 17, 26, 35, 40, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let anyone bully you. A friendship can turn into a much closer relationship if you are open and honest about your likes and dislikes. Don't fall short when it comes to detail. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There is a chance to make some extra cash, hook up with some interesting and informative people or even change your current direction to better suit your needs. Be quick to respond to an opportunity. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't dismiss an attraction you feel toward someone but do consider how making a move that may influence your future personally or professionally. Focus on friendship, nothing more, for the time being. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stay away from anyone trying to coerce you into doing all the work or spending your money to help others. Try your hand at developing a new skill. It will help you get ahead personally and professionally if you can offer a service with potential to be in demand. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Distance yourself from what you've been doing and the stress you've been undergoing. Professional problems will escalate if you are too readily available to be set up by someone looking for a scapegoat. Give more attention to your personal life. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Everything is looking good for you to make whatever move you want. Be adventurous—and you will take on a new goal that can change your future. Starting new endeavors and meeting new people will open doors of opportunity. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let what others do confuse you or make you angry. Avoid anyone trying to bully you into spending your cash on something you really don't need. Late in the day someone you respect will mention something helpful to you. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't leave anything to chance. Ask questions and find out where you stand. Your concerns will be answered, adding to your confidence and your ability to go after what you want full tilt. A creative project will allow you to produce some of your best work. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A change of plans can lead to uncertainty if you haven't done your homework or aren't prepared to adapt to challenges. Someone will disrupt your home or personal life, adding to your responsibilities. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make positive changes at home and you will be the hero. You can outmaneuver anyone you

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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come up against, turning whatever you face into a winning situation for you and your family. Something you enjoy doing can turn into an enterprising venture. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you let your heart interfere with your money making ideas, every penny you earn will slip through your fingers. A love interest will be impressed if you show stability and the desire to obtain a secure future. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't make hasty decisions regarding affairs of the heart. You will disrupt your home life if you are distant or neglectful. Once you are clear about what needs to be done, get on with your plans so you can move into a better situation. ***

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed, determined and aggressive. You are intent on getting things done to your own specifications.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

				9	2	1				
			1					5		
	6	2						7	3	
6										2
5										8
	9	4	2		8	3	6			
				5	2					
	7						1			
	6	4	7	3	2					

Difficulty Level ★★★

5/12

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

3	2	4	8	5	1	7	6	9
5	1	7	6	9	4	8	2	3
6	9	8	2	7	3	1	5	4
7	4	3	9	8	5	6	1	2
2	5	9	7	1	6	3	4	8
8	6	1	4	3	2	9	7	5
4	8	5	3	6	7	2	9	1
9	7	2	1	4	8	5	3	6
1	3	6	5	2	9	4	8	7

Difficulty Level **

5/11

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

NAVIGATIONAL BEACONS

Solution: 9 letters

N	C	O	N	T	R	O	L	I	N	S	T	A	L	L
N	O	I	T	A	C	I	F	I	T	N	E	D	I	O
E	M	I	P	R	G	N	I	T	H	G	I	L	G	C
E	M	E	T	C	S	P	A	R	K	L	E	L	H	A
G	U	I	M	A	S	T	W	E	I	V	O	E	T	T
N	N	F	T	I	N	T	A	T	A	B	E	N	H	I
A	I	I	G	T	L	I	F	R	M	K	Z	A	O	O
R	C	N	H	L	R	E	T	Y	S	R	I	P	U	N
F	A	D	L	C	V	O	S	S	E	A	N	V	S	I
L	T	E	A	A	A	E	P	T	E	M	G	I	E	G
I	I	D	P	E	I	O	H	R	O	D	O	S	T	H
C	O	I	T	O	H	R	R	I	I	N	C	U	O	T
K	N	U	C	T	H	A	E	P	C	A	E	A	N	O
E	O	G	N	R	E	T	T	A	P	L	R	L	E	T
R	D	N	U	O	R	G	N	I	R	A	E	B	D	R

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5/12

Aerial, Ahead, Airport, Approaching, Bearing, Communication, Control, Denote, Destination, Emit, Find, Flicker, Ground, Guide, Hope, Identification, Install, Landmark, Lighthouse, Lighting, Lit, Location, Milestone, Mount, Night, Panel, Pattern, Post, Range, Recognize, Route, Signal, Sparkle, Stars, Symbol, Travel, Vehicle, View, Visual

Yesterday's Answer: Quality

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword" for kids' appeal to younger fans and the puzzle-difficulty matches what you're looking for to get from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Uclick, Inc.) \$3 postage for the first book order, \$1 per book for each additional book. Send to: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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J.C. Tenorio Ent., Inc. is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position

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Some conditions may apply

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HILL LAW OFFICES
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Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
ROLDAN R. VILLALUZ,) **FCD DI CIVIL**
Petitioner,) **ACTION**
vs.) **NO. 09-0723**
MARILYN R.) **SUMMONS**
AGUIRRE-VILLALUZ,)
Respondent.)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.
YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.
If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.
By order of the above Court:
Dated this 30th day of December, 2009.
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

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Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm
M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 beginning at 9:00 AM at the Rota Resort Hotel Board Room; Rota, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I **PRELIMINARIES**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes
- II **CONSULTANT'S REPORTS**
 - Investment Consultant Reports
 - Loan Administrator Reports
 - Legal Counsel Reports
 - Board Consultant Reports
 - Financial Statements – MAR 2010
 - Flash Reports – MAR 2010
- III **OLD BUSINESS**
 - Selection of Trustee Liability Insurance
 - Administrative Matters for Review
 - Selection of A/E Firm for MPLT Administration Building
- IV **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - Trustee/Administration Matters
- V **NEW BUSINESS**
 - 2010 Trustees and Administrator Institutes/Investment Course – Hedge Funds, Real Estate and Other Alternative Investments
 - Managing Pension Liabilities and Costs
- VI **MISCELLANEOUS**
- VII **ADJOURNMENT**

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF Chairman, MPLT Trustees

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IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

IT&E has 10 summer positions available for current college and high school students:

REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ At least 16 years old
- ◆ Proof that the student is currently enrolled in school or proof that he/she will be enrolled for Fall 2010
- ◆ Official school transcript with a minimum 3.3 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- ◆ Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- ◆ Legally authorized to work in the CNMI

Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with other required documents, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than May 21, 2010. **Any inquiries must be made by the students applying.** They may call 234-6600.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS Saipan CLUB

We are currently seeking positive, outgoing individuals for the position of:

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Applicants must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements as well as a swim test that includes a 300 yard continuous swim.

Must be able to work on weekends and holidays with good verbal and written communication skills.

Korean, Japanese or Russian language skills a plus, but not required.

All applications are available at PIC's Security desk at the south end of the hotel.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Application deadline is
5pm on Friday, May 14, 2010.

PIC Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GOOD

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-040

“REPLACE/REPAIR OF DOORS AND WINDOWS FOR ROTA JR. HIGH AND ROTA HIGH SCHOOL”

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Replacement/Repair of Doors and Windows of Rota Jr. High and Rota High School** on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 5, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$55.50.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, “BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS”. Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, “Competitive Sealed Bidding”.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Rota Jr. High School Teacher’s Lounge on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 27, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-040, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 2, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with “Buy America” Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-041

“REPLACE/REPAIR OF DOORS AND WINDOWS OF TINIAN SCHOOLS”

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Replacement/Repair of Doors and Windows of Tinian Elementary and Tinian High School**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 5, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$53.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, “BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS”. Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, “Competitive Sealed Bidding”.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 25, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Tinian Elementary School Library on Tinian. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 28, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-041, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 3, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with “Buy America” Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370, SAIPAN, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS-IFB-10-034

“PAINTING OF SINAPALO ELEMENTARY AND ROTA HIGH SCHOOL”

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Painting of Sinapalo Elementary and Rota High School** on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 28, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$34.10.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, “BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS”. Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, “Competitive Sealed Bidding”.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 17, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Rota High School Library on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 19, 2010, 4:30 p.m..

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-034, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, May 21, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly opened in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with “Buy America” Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



Invitation for bid PSS-IFB-10-052

“PORTABLE HAND HELD RADIOS & ACCESSORIES FOR BUS DRIVERS AND PSS CENTRAL EMERGENCY TEAM”

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase of **Portable Hand Held Radios and Accessories for PSS Bus Drivers and Emergency Team**. The Scope of Work is available beginning May 12, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950.

Questions shall be in writing and addressed to Jack Diaz, Federal Program Coordinator via fax at (670) 664-3797 or e-mail to the following address: jack.diaz@cnmipss.org.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked “**IFB 10-052**” containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **Friday, June 4, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.**, at which time bids, will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

This purchase is funded by a Grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Lakers complete sweep over Jazz



SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers played more like they were trying to avoid a sweep rather than complete one.

The Lakers stormed out to a 22-point lead in the first half, then withstood a brief surge by Utah in the third quarter before regaining control in the fourth and winning 111-96 on Monday night, sweeping the second-round series and advancing to the Western Conference finals for the third straight year.

“With close-out games, you have a tendency to lose focus,” said Kobe Bryant, who scored 32 for the Lakers. “We kept our concentration and paid attention to detail.”

Pau Gasol added 33 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers, who are off until hosting the Phoenix Suns next Monday in Game 1 of the West finals.

The Lakers quickly ended Utah’s hopes of extending the series by dominating the second quarter both offensively and defensively, holding Utah to just 17 points in the period. Utah’s push in the third made it at least competitive and exciting for a little while, but the Jazz couldn’t sustain the comeback against the defending NBA champions.

“We’re a playoff team and they’re a championship team. They’re just better than we are,” said Deron Williams, who had 21 points and nine assists for the Jazz.

The Lakers made very few mistakes and didn’t give the Jazz many chances to rally.

Los Angeles had just six turnovers and made 29-of-36 foul shots while knocking Utah out of the playoffs for the third straight year.

“We had one of our better games tonight,” Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. “This is the first really consistent game we have played, except for a six-minute stint in the third quarter. We controlled the game and forced our will on our opponent.”

Carlos Boozer had 10 points and 14 rebounds, and Kyrylo Fesenko added 12 rebounds for Utah, which was swept for the first time in 21 years.

The Jazz lost the first three games by single digits but never found a way to slow down Bryant, who scored 30 or more in all four games. The Lakers finally got a blowout in the final game and by doing so earned a week of rest.

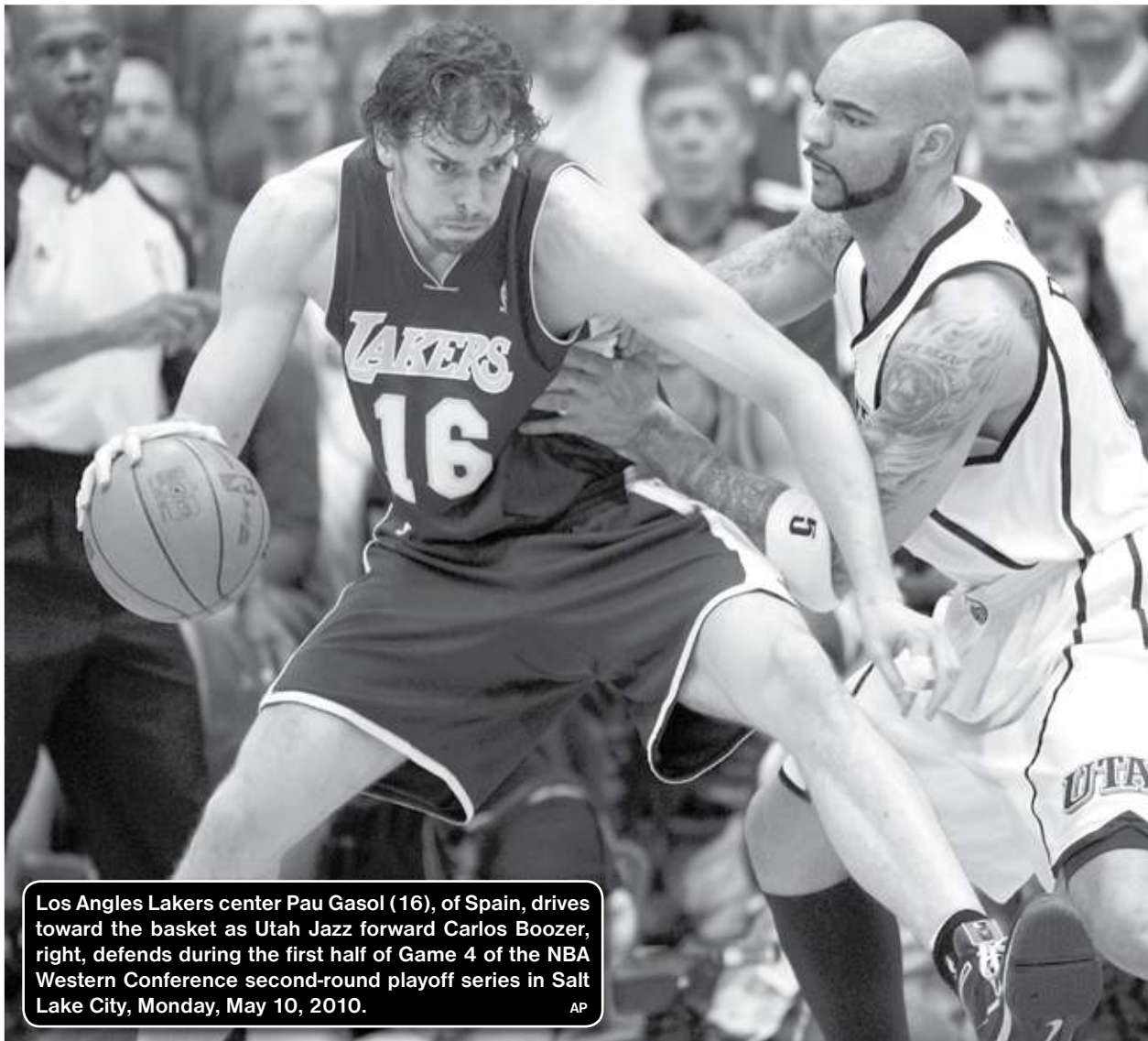
Shannon Brown scored 12 and Lamar Odom added 10 points for the Lakers.

C.J. Miles scored 15, Wesley Matthews had 12 and Paul Millsap scored 21 off the bench.

Utah fans started leaving early and the small contingent wearing gold Lakers’ jerseys chanted “Sweep! Sweep! Sweep!” The Jazz hadn’t been swept since Golden State knocked them out 3-0 in the first round of the 1989 playoffs.

“We knew they were a great team and I don’t think anybody had us picked to beat them,” Utah coach Jerry Sloan said. “We had some good moments and some moments that weren’t very good.”

After a dreadful second quarter, the Jazz came out in the third and made it close for at least a little while. Utah opened the third with an 11-2 run to get back within range, then cut the lead to 70-65 on a layup by Boozer. But the Lakers withstood the push and finished the period on a 10-2 run and led 80-67 entering the fourth.



Los Angeles Lakers center Pau Gasol (16), of Spain, drives toward the basket as Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer, right, defends during the first half of Game 4 of the NBA Western Conference second-round playoff series in Salt Lake City, Monday, May 10, 2010. AP

Derek Fisher, who finished with 10 points, opened the final quarter with a 3-pointer, then drew a foul by Williams behind the arc and made all three foul shots to put the Lakers back up 86-69. Los Angeles led by at least 10 the rest of the way.

The Lakers took control early and showed they were intent on finishing the series in Utah rather than having to go home for Game 5. The Lakers discouraged Utah from trying to get inside

with some early blocks, and once the Jazz stopped trying, Los Angeles began to pull away.

“We all were discouraged. It was kinda deja vu,” Williams said. “It’s always hard to get down 10, 12 points against this team and try and come back.”

Shannon Brown leaped for dunks at the end of the first and start of the second during an 8-0 run, then the Lakers added seven straight points later in the period while building a 22-point lead.

The Lakers outscored the Jazz 29-17 in the period and Utah grew more dejected with every empty possession.

Magic 98, Hawks 84

At Atlanta, the Orlando Magic are playing like a team that will settle for nothing less than its first NBA championship.

Vince Carter scored 22 points to lead another dominating performance by the Magic, which finished off its second straight playoff sweep with a vic-

tory over the Atlanta Hawks.

Orlando won the four games by an average of 25 points—a total blowout that no one could have expected in a matchup between the teams that finished second and third in the Eastern Conference.

But the Magic, who lost to the Lakers in last year’s NBA Finals, are playing better than anyone at the most important time of the season. They have won 14 in a row—the last eight in the playoffs—and 28 of 31 games.

The Magic are off to the Eastern Conference finals for the second year in a row. They will face either Boston or a rematch with Cleveland, the team they upset for last year’s conference title before losing to the Los Angeles Lakers in the NBA Finals.

Orlando barely broke a sweat against the Hawks, and Game 4 was more of the same. Atlanta held Dwight Howard to 13 points and eight rebounds, but the Magic had plenty of other options.

Jameer Nelson was unstoppable, baffling the Hawks with his now-you-see-him, now-you-don’t quickness as the Magic raced out to a quick lead in the first half. He finished with 16 points and nine assists. Rashard Lewis scored 17 points, knocking down four 3-pointers. Mickael Pietrus scored 12 points—all of them from beyond the arc.

The Magic shot 55 percent from the field and never trailed during either game in Atlanta.

Hawks star Joe Johnson finished off a miserable series by scoring only 14 points on 5-of-15 shooting. He was booed by the home crowd at the start of the game and got the same treatment when he went to the bench with 3:51 to play. The fans were still miffed that he said didn’t care if they “showed up or not” after they heckled the team in a 30-point loss on Saturday.

Orlando didn’t stand pat after losing to the Lakers, trading for Carter in hopes that he would be the final piece needed for a title. So far, so good. The Magic blew through Charlotte in the opening round, then thoroughly dominated the team that finished just behind them in the East.

Atlanta ended the third quarter with a bit of momentum, having sliced a 17-point deficit down to 75-66. Orlando quickly put an end to any thought of a comeback.

Zaza Pachulia picked up two quick fouls trying to guard Howard, then Lewis got open for a 3-pointer. Johnson misfired on a funky, one-handed shot in the lane, and Carter buried a 19-foot jumper with Josh Smith right in his face for an 80-66 lead.

The Hawks called a timeout, but it didn’t matter.

They were done.

This might have been the last game in Atlanta for Johnson and coach Mike Woodson.

Johnson turned down a contract extension before the season to join what could be the greatest free-agent class in NBA history. Woodson’s contract is up, and management hardly gave him a rousing vote of confidence by refusing to even talk about a new deal until after the season.

Johnson sure didn’t help his bargaining position with the way he finished the season. Over his last seven playoff games, he averaged 13.4 points a game on 32 percent shooting.

Cavaliers may put LeBron on Rondo

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio (AP)—Unable to corral Rajon Rondo so far in the NBA playoffs, the Cleveland Cavaliers may resort to Plan LeB.

LeBron James, it’s your turn.

With Rondo coming off an historic 29-point, 18-rebound, 13-assist performance in Game 4, Cavaliers coach Mike Brown said Monday he plans to use an assortment of players to try to slow the seemingly unstoppable Celtics point guard and one of them could be James, the league’s two-time MVP and a first-team all-defense selection.

“We’re going to give ‘Bron an opportunity,” Brown said.

Rondo’s not scared.

“I don’t really care who’s guarding me,” he said.

That’s been apparent through the first four games of this ping-pong series, tied 2-2 going into Tuesday’s pivotal Game 5 at Quicken Loans Arena. Rondo, no longer viewed as the fourth Celtic behind Boston’s Big Three of Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen and Paul Pierce, has been destroying the Cavs—particularly Mo Williams and Anthony Parker—with his dribble penetration and playmaking.

Rondo is averaging 21.8 points, 13 assists and 8.3 rebounds, eye-popping,

LeBron-like numbers that have forced the Cavs into rethinking, and, perhaps, redesigning their defensive strategy. One obvious option is the switch to James, who has shut down Pierce so far and said Sunday he would be willing to check Rondo.

Brown worries that if James is taken off Pierce, Boston’s streaky forward may find his touch after averaging just 11.8 points and shooting only 32 percent through four games.

“You put LeBron on Rondo when he’s doing a nice job of making Paul work and you have to put a smaller guy on Paul and we all know what Paul is capable of doing,” Brown said. “You do that for long stretches and it can open up a can of worms, and it puts some pressure on LeBron to work defensively throughout the entire game. We’ll pick and choose our spots when to put LeBron on him.”

If James indeed gets assigned to Rondo, he’ll join fellow superstars Kobe Bryant and Dwyane Wade, who both have had to check Boston’s tornado-in-tennis shoes guard.

Rondo isn’t dreading a one-on-one confrontation with James.

“It’s happened before,” he said. “LeBron is going to be LeBron. He’s

a great help defender so he’s definitely going to be helping. He’s a good defender. They did that a couple of years ago when Kobe was checking me in the finals. So, I’m used to bigger guys guarding me the shot and challenging me late because of their wingspan.

“I really don’t care. If he checks me, he checks me. It’s not going to change the way we run our offense.”

The Cavaliers did little more than some light shooting and conditioning after returning home following their 97-87 loss on Sunday. The primary objective was to break down tape of Game 4, when Rondo joined Oscar Robertson (1963) and Wilt Chamberlain (1967) as the third player in playoff history to have at least 29 points, 18 rebounds and 13 assists.

“We watched, basically, the tape on him,” said Cavaliers center Zydrunas Ilgauskas, who has dropped out of Brown’s postseason rotation. “It’s hard for one guy to stop him because he is that good. It’s going to take all five. We always knew that he was a hell of a player.

“Maybe we were so worried about The Big Three that in some degree we’re underestimating him and that was our biggest mistake.”

Morrow's wildness helps Red Sox beat Toronto



BOSTON (AP)—

Brandon Morrow set a Toronto Blue Jays record by walking five batters in one inning as the Boston Red Sox scored four runs in the second and went on to a 7-6 win Monday night.

The Red Sox needed just one hit in that inning to take the lead, a cushion that came in handy when John Lackey (4-1) struggled through six innings before three relievers held the Blue Jays hitless. Jonathan Papelbon worked the ninth for his ninth save in nine chances.

Boston trailed 4-2 heading into the second and led 6-4 after the wild streak by Morrow (2-3).

Dustin Pedroia's RBI single made it 7-4 in the third. Jose Bautista hit a two-run homer, his seventh, to cut it to 7-6, but Toronto lost for the second time in nine games. Boston is 6-2 in its last eight.

Morrow had tied the club record of four walks in an inning on April 9 in his debut with Toronto after being traded by Seattle on Dec. 23 for Brandon League.



Toronto Blue Jays catcher John Buck, right, tags out Boston Red Sox's Kevin Youkilis at home plate during the first inning of a baseball game on Monday April 26, 2010, in Toronto. AP

Tigers 5, Yankees 4

At Detroit, Johnny Damon hit a homer in his first game against the team that didn't re-sign him, helping Detroit beat New York.

Austin Jackson, a former Yankees prospect, gave Detroit a three-run lead in the second inning.

Mark Teixeira's two-run home run pulled New York within a run in the third inning.

Detroit's Brad Thomas gave up two runs in three innings. Eddie Bonine (3-0) pitched 2 1-3 scoreless innings for the win.

Phil Coke, also an ex-Yankee, retired two before Ryan Perry got Derek Jeter to line out to end the eighth with two on and down a run. Jose Valverde struck out the side for his ninth save.

Angels 5, Rays 4, 11 innings

At Anaheim, California, Juan Rivera's sacrifice fly in the 11th inning gave Los Angeles a victory over Tampa Bay after Angels closer Brian Fuentes blew a three-run lead in the ninth.

Kendry Morales led off the 11th with a single against Grant Balfour (0-1), advanced on Reggie Willits' bunt and went to third on a wild pitch.

Torii Hunter and Mike Napoli homered for the three-time defending American League West champions, who were coming off a 2-8 road trip that was their worst since 2001. Trevor Bell (1-0) struck out the only batter he faced in his season debut.

Willy Aybar hit a solo homer before Evan Longoria's two-run double with two outs in the ninth tied it for the Rays, one day after Oakland lefty Dallas Braden pitched a perfect game against them.

Braves 8, Brewers 2

At Milwaukee, Martin Prado hit a grand slam and Tommy Hanson pitched eight scoreless innings as the Atlanta Braves snapped a pair of power droughts in a win over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Atlanta had gone 253 games without a grand slam before Prado's in the sixth. The Braves had also gone four days without a homer before Troy Glaus led off the inning with a shot off

starter Doug Davis (1-4).

The Braves also scored on an error by second baseman Rickie Weeks in the sixth to make it 3-0 before Davis walked Omar Infante to load the bases with two outs. Prado then hit reliever Manny Parra's fastball into the left-field bleachers.

Hanson (3-2) struck out eight batters and held the Brewers to four hits.

Reds 2, Pirates 1

At Pittsburgh, Bronson Arroyo limited Pittsburgh to one run over seven-plus innings, and Scott Rolen and Laynce Nix doubled in runs as Cincinnati held

off the Pirates.

Arroyo (2-2), trying for his fourth career shutout, had permitted only three singles until Ronny Cedeno led off the eighth by homering down the left-field line, his third of the season.

Reds manager Dusty Baker lifted Arroyo after Delwyn Young followed with a pinch-hit single, and reliever Arthur Rhodes got the next three outs.

Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 11th save in 13 opportunities, stranding the potential tying run at third by getting Cedeno to ground into a force play. The Reds won for the 10th

time in 14 games.

Marlins 4, Cubs 2

At Chicago, Nate Robertson pitched six solid innings and Ronny Paulino homered as Florida beat Chicago after dropping five of six.

Paulino's two-run shot highlighted a three-run seventh in which Cody Ross stole home, giving the Marlins a 4-2 lead and sending the Cubs to their sixth loss in seven games.

Robertson (3-3) allowed two runs and seven hits after losing his previous three starts.

Chicago lefty Ted Lilly (1-3) took

a no-hit bid into the sixth before things unraveled.

Nationals 3, Mets 2

At New York, Adam Kennedy and Ryan Zimmerman hit consecutive homers to support a sharp outing by rookie Luis Atilano as Washington beat New York.

Ivan Rodriguez had an RBI single in the seventh inning among his four hits and stole a base for Washington, which came in tied with New York for second in the NL East at 17-14. Kennedy homered to right and Zimmerman to left off John Maine (1-2) in the third.

Atilano (3-0) allowed five hits in 5 1-3 scoreless innings and got his first big league hit to help the Nationals improve to four games over .500 (18-14) for the first time since they were 77-73 on Sept. 19, 2005.

Phillies 9, Rockies 5

At Denver, Carlos Ruiz had four hits, including a homer in the sixth inning and a tiebreaking single off Manny Corpas in the ninth, to send Philadelphia past mistake-prone Colorado.

Ruiz's third single scored Ryan Howard from second. Howard was plunked by an 0-2 fastball from Corpas leading off the ninth and went to second one out later on a wild pitch.

Pinch-hitter Ross Gload then drove a 3-1 delivery from Corpas for a three-run homer that made it 9-5 and sent the shivering crowd streaming to the exits.

The four-run rally off Corpas (1-2) made a winner of Danys Baez (1-1), who threw a scoreless eighth. Jose Contreras got the final three outs.

Dodgers 7, Diamondbacks 3

At Phoenix, Andre Ethier had three hits, including a two-run double, and James Loney homered and drove in two for Los Angeles in a victory over Arizona.

Chad Billingsley (3-2) allowed two runs and three hits in 5 1-3 innings to earn his 50th career win. Manny Ramirez, Casey Blake and Blake DeWitt added RBI singles as the Dodgers won on the road for the first time since April 24 at Washington.

Texans owner: Team knew about Cushing 'issue'



NEW YORK (AP)—Houston Texans owner Robert McNair said he knew during the 2009 season that linebacker Brian Cushing had "an issue" with the NFL, but had no details from the league of what it concerned.

Cushing was suspended by the league last week for violating its steroid policy. Although Cushing admitted taking a non-steroid banned substance, it is still considered performance-enhancing by the league. He did not identify the substance he took.

Cushing was voted The Associated Press NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year at the end of the season—part of the AP's annual awards honoring outstanding on-field performance by players. As a result of the penalty and admission, the AP is taking a revote for the defensive rookie award plus All-Pro outside linebacker. Cushing received five votes in that category and made the second team. He is still among the nominees in the revote.

Cushing was a runaway winner for the rookie award in balloting by a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the league. He received 39 votes, easily beating Buffalo safety Jairus Byrd, who had six.

"This is the first time we've encountered an issue like this," said Lou Ferrara, AP's managing editor for sports

and entertainment. "Because these awards are based on on-field performance, we consider it necessary to review the matter and allow for a revote, especially after concerns were raised by many of our voters."

McNair criticized the suspension and appeal process because, he said, it doesn't provide enough information to the team.

"The club is left completely out of the loop on that," McNair said. "We're not even notified, it's the league and the player and the players' union. All we know is what's been announced at this point in time."

Cushing is suspended without pay for the first four games of the 2010 season, even though he said he took the substance in September, the first month of the 2009 schedule. He appealed the ban and a final decision was handed down last week.

"Brian had mentioned that he had an issue there, but we don't know what any of the details are, we don't know what doctors he may have consulted with, we don't know what evidence that the league might have had ... which is a very bad position to be in because we're the guy that's got the investment in the player. The league doesn't have any money invested in the player, the union doesn't have any money invested in the player, and yet they get the information and we don't.

"So it's a sensitive area because it is sort of like medical information and there's confidentiality and this sort of thing. But I think it's something that needs to be addressed in the next collective bargaining agreement."

Cushing will not be eligible for next season's Pro Bowl—he made the AFC team last January, but did not play, citing several injuries—or any NFL-sponsored awards.

"In the year a player is notified of and serves his suspension, he is ineligible for selection to the Pro Bowl or to receive any other honors or awards from the league or the NFL Players Association," NFL spokesman Michael Signora said Monday.

That includes player of the week and player of the month awards, the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award or the Super Bowl most valuable player award.

Cushing can participate in all training camp and preseason activities, then must leave the Texans for the first four weeks of the season.

A first-round draft pick from Southern California, Cushing had 133 tackles for the Texans, who went 9-7, their first winning record. He had five sacks, four interceptions and two forced fumbles, numbers that normally belong to a seasoned veteran.

But he won't be available to the Texans until Oct. 4.

Team 1, Green Team share women’s league lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Team 1 and Green Team are in a two-way tie for the lead in the 2010 Marianas Variety Women’s Basketball League, following separate victories on Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Team 1 topped the Lady Eagles in the first game, 84-52, to claim its third win in as many games. Green Team duplicated Team 1’s feat after a 66-43 triumph against Team 5 in the second match of the night.

The Lady Eagles absorbed their third loss in as many games, as they failed to keep up with Team 1 in the last three quarters after a close first period, 21-13, in favor of the latter.

Team 1 pulled way in the second quarter when it held the Lady Eagles to only six points. Roxanne Duenas, who exploded with 11 markers in the first period, outscored the entire Lady Eagles crew in the second, 14-6, bringing Team 1’s lead to 26 at the break, 45-19.

Team 1 added more to its

lead with Jamie Mendoza and Lena Guzman taking over from Duenas in the second half, hitting 12 in the third, and eight in the fourth, respectively.

Duenas still top-scored for Team 1 with 32 points, while Mendoza chipped in 20. Glorily Williams had 18, drilling 14 in the first half to make up for the absence of Lia Rangamar. Guzman finished with 12 markers.

Jacque Wonenberg paced the Lady Eagles with 25 points, while team captain Toi Smith contributed 12. Vanessa Pritchard was only the third player to score more than three field goals for the Lady Eagles, who were lacking offensive firepower as shown in their last three blowout losses.

In the second game, Green Team played better in the second half to keep its unbeaten record.

With Amy Sletten and Lalaine Pagarao leading Team 5 in the first half, combining for 24 points, Green Team faced a 24-28 deficit at the break.

However, Green Team stepped up on offense and then neutralized Team 5’s gunners

in third period to grab the upper hand, 42-36. Sletten was held to four points and the entire Team 5 scored only eight markers with Pagarao failing to light up the scoreboard.

On offense, Emily Matson hit six of her 16 points in the third and drew help from five other teammates to take the lead, entering the final canto.

Team 5 continued to have an anemic performance on offense in the fourth period, posting only seven points, five from Pagarao. Sletten was scoreless in the fourth and Team 5’s other field goal in the final canto came from Asia Michaleun.

Andrea Engelhardt, who was scoreless in the third after finishing the half with 11, redeemed herself in the fourth, tallying eight markers. Sisters Emily and Melody Matson helped Engelhardt out in the final canto, canning six points apiece, to give Green Team a 3-0 record. Team 5 dropped to a 0-3 slate.

First Game

Team 1 84 – Duenas 32, Mendoza 20, Williams 18, Guzman 12, Babauta 2.

Lady Eagles 52 – Wonen-

berg 25, Smith 12, Pritchard 9, Zhuang 4, Chen 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-13,

45-19, 65-37, 84-52.

Second Game

Green Team 66 – A. Engelhardt 19, E. Matson 16, M. Matson 14, C. Engelhardt 7, Ta-

cliad 6, Mobel 4.

Team 5 43 – Sletten 21, Pagarao 12, Hofschneider 4, Michaleun 4, Javier 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-16, 24-28, 42-36, 66-43.

BREWERS

From Page 28

fice fly.

In the bottom half, the Fielders finally found some offense from Ryan Lisua who hit a one out single, stole second, and scored off an infield error.

The score remained at 5-1, Brewers, until the bottom of the fifth when the Fielders tried to stage a comeback.

This time Lisua connected with a one out double before John Reyes reached off an error that set up a big two RBI double by Juan Maratita.

After the Brewers failed to answer in the top of the sixth, the Fielders tied the game in the bottom half.

Shane Mendiola led off with a single and was drove in by Lisua. Lisua then scored the tying run off an RBI double by John Reyes.

But then the Brewers began the seventh at the top of their order and added four more

big runs.

Celis and Benavente led off and reached again with a pair of singles and Manny Sablan drove home Celis with base hit.

After Mesa reached off a fielder’s choice, Reno Celis singled in Sablan.

Mesa and Reno Celis scored off an error before Vince Cepeda got picked off at second for the third out.

In the bottom half, the Fielders trimmed it back down to a one-run margin with three runs of their own.

Jay Camacho led off with a single and Eli Aughenbaugh drove him in with a booming triple.

Then Mendiola drew a walk before Ton Tenorio singled in Aughenbaugh. Mendiola later stole home before the Brewers closed the inning.

The score then changed to 10-8 as the Brewers added a run in the top of the eighth from Toi Celis who drew a one out walk and scored off an error.

In the top of the ninth, the

Brewers poured out three more runs for their homies before taking their 2-0 lead in this best of five series.

Mesa and Reno Celis both reached and scored off errors before Cepeda reached off an error and scored off a double by Toi Celis.

In the bottom half, the Fielders needed five runs, but only managed one run before the Brewers closed it out.

Notables of the game included Brewers leadoff batter Toi Celis, who batted 3-for-4 with one RBI, four runs, a walk, and was hit by a pitch.

For the Fielders, eight of the 13 runs that came in against them were unearned. Additionally, Lisua, who batted all the way back in the ninth spot, for some reason went 3-for-5 with an RBI, three runs, and a stolen base.

Game 3 of the best-of-five series will take place tonight at 6:30pm and the Fielders are in a must-win situation from here on out.

MCDONALD’S

From Page 28

ties in the Commonwealth,” Joe Ayuyu said.

“On behalf of the NMA, we would like to thank McDonald’s for opening their doors to

us, again. Every help we can get from the business community counts, as we try to provide our young athletes opportunities to excel in sports,” Tebuteb said.

White added that the All Schools meet has become a signature event of McDonald’s, as the company has been the main

supporter of the annual competition in four of the last five stagings of the championship.

The McDonald’s All Schools meet will run for three days this year at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility with NMA expecting over 1,000 student-athletes

in the elementary, junior high school, and high school divisions competing in running, throwing, and jumping events.

The meet will kick off tomorrow with four events; 200m and, 3,000m run, softball throw, and javelin throw. On May 14, NMA will have five events; 1,

500m, 100m, and 4x100m relay runs, long jump, and discus throw. On May 15 in the last day of the meet, student-athletes will be competing in the high jump, 5,000m, 400m, and 4x400m relay runs, and shot put.

Participants in the three-day tournament underwent a series

of qualifiers in the past two months to select only the Top 8 competitors in running events and Top 12 in field contests. Medals will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in each event, while trophies await the champion schools in each age group; U8, U10, U12, U14, and U18.

SHIRLEY’S

From Page 28

and failed to draw a bye in the first round of the playoffs after losing to MBI in its last game and following Fiesta

Resort’s win over MBI. TBK also dropped in the Top 4 and settled for No. 6 after bowing to AON last week. PIC was in a three-way tie for ninth to 11th place with AON and Shirley’s, but fell to No. 11 due to its lowest points in the

quotient system.

AON occupied the No. 10 spot and will face No. 7 Bank of Guam in the first game this Saturday. BoG ended its regular season campaign with an 87-85 triumph against AON last Friday.

The other playoff match this Saturday will have No. 8 McGraw-Hill challenging No. 9 Shirley’s. McGraw-Hill won its last game in the regular season, whipping AON last Saturday, 113-97.

This Sunday in the first

game, No. 3 Fiesta will meet the winner of the TBK-PIC, while Mobil will duel the victor of the Aqua Resort Club-Pepsi.

Next week, MBI will collide against the winner of the McGraw-Hill-Shirley’s playoff

game, while World Resort/Advantage will battle the victor of the BoG-AON tiff.

The two teams that will survive the single-elimination playoffs will be featured in the championship game tentatively set for May 22.

OL’ACES

From Page 28

last nine outs, allowed only one hit and struck out six for the save.

Coincidentally, it was Nakamura who added Ol’Aces’ last run in the top of the sixth. Nakamura hit a one out single, moved to second off an error, and was later driven home by Reyes.

Other notables for Ol’Aces were Jessie Yamagishi, who batted 3-for-4 with two triples, three RBIs, and a run and winning pitcher; and Jake Santos, who allowed three runs, one unearned, in five innings pitched with four strikeouts and seven hits.

Senior Hustlers 8, Fielders 3

What was expected to be a low-scoring pitching duel quickly turned into a one-sided slugfest during Sunday’s 2010 Saipan Senior League matchup between the Hustlers and the Fielders.

The Hustlers’ victory improved their record to five wins

and seven losses as the Fielders fell to a 6-5 win-loss record.

Listed in second place with a total of 53 strikeouts for the season, the Hustlers’ McGarette Duenas was edging out Fielders workhorse Carl Camacho by only one strikeout coming into this game.

With remarkably similar numbers, these two pitchers were virtually neck-and-neck on the Senior League leaderboard for pitching.

After the visiting Fielders came up empty in the top of the first, the Hustlers took an early two-run lead in the bottom half.

Tim Guerrero led off with a single and was brought home off a double by Duenas, who later scored off an error.

The Fielders got a run back in the top of the second from Patrick Tenorio who drew a two out walk, stole two bases, and scored off a wild pitch, but the Hustlers came out in their half and raised the bar again on the Fielders.

Antonio Taitano led off with a hit and a strikeout and later Kalani Castro drew a walk that

set up a big two RBI single by Tim Guerrero who later scored off an error.

With the score at 5-1, Hustlers after two, the Fielders added a run in the top of third, but were still showing signs of struggle at the plate.

Joshua Villagomez drew a walk and scored off an error, but two other Fielders runners were picked off out on the bases and two more ended up stranded as the Fielders failed to take advantage of a number of opportunistic errors committed by the Hustlers.

Much like the last matchup between these two squads, the Fielders struggled swinging the bats in addition to not making the Hustlers pay for their mistakes.

Although the Fielders offense went cold, they did tighten up their defense and forced the Hustlers to go 1-2-3 in the bottom of the third.

In the top of the fourth, a fly out and two grounders to the pitcher stranded two more runners for the Fielders.

In the bottom half, Taitano

led off with a single for the Hustlers and was driven in by Hustlers’ RBI machine, Tim Guerrero.

The Fielders stranded two more runners in the top of the fifth while the Hustlers added another run to their lead off a Taitano double that scored Timothy Rabago who reached with a walk.

The score was 7-2 Hustlers at the top of the sixth and after the Fielders went scoreless again the Hustlers showed them, one more time, how to bring a runner to the plate.

Later in the top of the seventh, the Fielders sprinkled on a run, but the Hustlers closed them out for the 8-3 win.

Hustlers winning pitcher Duenas allowed two unearned runs in four and a third innings pitched with five strikeouts, three hits, and five walks. Another Hustlers notable was Tim Guerrero who batted 3-for-4 with three RBIs and three runs.

In the other Senior League game, Hunters beat the D9ers by forfeit.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
Los Angeles	15	17	.469	4 1/2
Arizona	14	19	.424	6
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	22	10	.688	—
New York	21	10	.677	1/2
Toronto	19	15	.559	4
Boston	17	16	.515	5 1/2
Baltimore	9	23	.281	13
Central Division				
Minnesota	21	11	.656	—
Detroit	18	14	.563	3
Chicago	13	19	.406	8
Cleveland	11	18	.379	8 1/2
Kansas City	11	21	.344	10
West Division				
Texas	18	14	.563	—
Oakland	17	15	.531	1
Los Angeles	15	19	.441	4
Seattle	12	19	.387	5 1/2
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Philadelphia	20	12	.625	—
Washington	18	14	.563	2
New York	17	15	.531	3
Florida	15	17	.469	5
Atlanta	14	18	.438	6
Central Division				
St. Louis	20	12	.625	—
Cincinnati	17	15	.531	3
Milwaukee	15	17	.469	5
Pittsburgh	14	18	.438	6
Chicago	14	19	.424	6 1/2
Houston	10	21	.323	9 1/2
West Division				
San Diego	19	12	.613	—
San Francisco	18	12	.600	1/2
Colorado	15	17	.469	4 1/2
Yesterday's Games				
Cincinnati 2, Pittsburgh 1				
Washington 3, N.Y. Mets 2				
Florida 4, Chicago Cubs 2				
Atlanta 8, Milwaukee 2				
Philadelphia 9, Colorado 5				
L.A. Dodgers 7, Arizona 3				
Detroit 5, N.Y. Yankees 4				
Boston 7, Toronto 6				
L.A. Angels 5, Tampa Bay 4, 11 innings				
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				
LOCAL SCORES				
SHIRLEY'S STANDINGS (FINAL)				
MBI	11	3		
World Resort	11	3		
Fiesta Resort	10	4		
Mobil	10	4		
Aqua Resort	10	4		
TBK	9	5		
Bank of Guam	9	5		
McGraw-Hill	8	6		
Shirley's	6	8		
AON/NJ Plus	6	8		
Pacific Islands Club	6	8		
Pepsi	4	10		
Docomo/SGH	4	10		
Hard Rock	1	13		
Cell Pro	0	14		
WOMEN'S LEAGUE STANDINGS				
Team 1	3	0		
Green Team	3	0		
Bon Faiyah	1	1		
Team 6	1	1		
Lady Eagles	0	3		
Team 5	0	3		

2010 NMIFA U14 Youth Football Spring Festival

PHOTOS by ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Matansa and MP United players exchange hi-fives after their title game in the girls U14 division of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Spring Festival on Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field. Matansa won, 2-0.



MP United's Gabrielle Race kicks the ball against a Matansa defender.



Paire's Kautong Omengkar dives for the ball during a penalty shootout against Tan Holdings FC.



An Independents player kicks the ball during their title game against MP United. MPU won, 2-0.



A Tan Holdings FC player stops the ball during their battle for third game against Paire. Paire won, 2-0.



Paire Red and Tan Holdings FC player chase the ball during their battle for third place match. Tan Holdings won in a shootout, 4-3.



Paire Red players join hands while waiting for the penalty shootout against Tan Holdings FC.



Referee Cathy Anderson restarts the game between MP United and Matansa after an injury timeout.



Independents and MP United players in action during their U14 finals.

Right, an MP United Blue player pours water to his teammate in celebration of their title win against Independents.





Lakers
complete
sweep
over Jazz
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Saipan Tribune Sports



28 WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Brewers lead series 2-0 over Fielders

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

After upsetting the 2010 Saipan Major League pennant champs Rangers to advance to the championship round, the Brewers

now hold a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five SML championship series against the Fielders after winning Monday night's Game 2, 13-9 at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The visiting Brewers took an early two-run lead in the top of the first.

Toi Celis led off with a single and Ron



Benavente moved him to second after reaching off an error.

Celis scored off a passed ball before Byron Kaipat singled in Benavente.

The score remained at 2-0 until the top of third when the Brewers started at the top of their order and tacked on three more runs.

Celis reached again after being hit by a pitch and Benavente followed him with a single.

Kaipat then reached off a costly right field error that scored Celis and Benavente.

Kaipat later scored off a Jess Mesa sacrifice.

See BREWERS on Page 26

McDonald's backs All Schools track meet with \$3K



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

McDonald's owner and general manager Joe Ayuyu, right, shakes hands with NMA director of marketing and sponsorship Gabriel White after handing over the company's \$3,000 donation for the 2010 All Schools Athletics Championships in a brief turnover, second right, ceremony at McDonald's Middle Road. Also in the photo, from left are store manager Marcia Ayuyu and NMA president Ramon Tebuteb.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Two days before its kick-off, the 2010 All Schools Athletics Championships got a shot in the arm from McDonald's, which donated \$3,000 for the

annual track meet.

McDonald's owner and general manager Joe Ayuyu handed over the check donation to Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon Tebuteb and NMA director of marketing and sponsorship Gabriel White in a simple ceremony at McDonald's main office in Middle Road yesterday. Also present to witness the ceremony were store

manager Marcia Ayuyu and general supervisor Ana Olaes.

"It's hard to say no to something which you know will be very beneficial to the community, especially to our youth. Giving our support to NMA and the All Schools is one way of reiterating the company's commitment to sports development and other worthy activities."

See MCDONALD'S on Page 26

Ol'Aces solidify position atop Senior League

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Ol'Aces recorded their ninth win in 11 games after dropping the Lions, 10-3, in the second game of Sunday's Senior League matchups at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Lions, meanwhile, absorbed their fourth loss in 12 games for the 2010 season.

Ol'Aces scored an early run in the top of the first from Diego Camacho who drew a walk and scored off an error.

The Lions matched it in the bottom half as Greg Iskawa connected with a double, stole third, and scored off an error.

In the top of the second, Ol'Aces sparked a two-out rally and took a four-run lead.

Dave Hosono reached off a fielder's choice, stole second, and was driven home off a Jake Santos single.

Thyce Tutti and Diego Camacho then



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Ol'Aces relief pitcher Harry Nakamura pitched three shutout innings, struck out six of 10 batters he faced and allowed one base hit in Saturday's Senior League game against the Lions.

singled to load the bases and set up a huge three RBI triple by Jessie Yamagishi.

The Lions failed to answer and the score remained 5-1, Aces until the bottom of the fourth inning when the Lions tried to rally back.

Leo Blas and Roman Camacho reached off a single and a bobbled fielder's choice before Shota Castro delivered them home with a two RBI double.

But just as the Lions trimmed it to a two-run game at 5-3, Ol'Aces hit back with another four-run inning to start the fifth.

Yamagishi led off with a triple and was knocked in by Harry Nakamura.

Then Keoni Lizama and Rocco Reyes reached off a double and a single before Lamar Iguel brought them to the plate with a two RBI triple.

Phillip Litulumar singled in Iguel before the Lions could escape the inning.

Ol'Aces' fifth inning onslaught took the fight out of the Lions as Aces' reliever, Nakamura, came to the mound in the fifth, faced only 10 batters in the

See OL'ACES on Page 26

Shirley's caging playoffs start tonight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Win or go home will be the battle cry of four teams that will start the play-off action in the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League tonight at the JP Center Basketball Court.

In the first game, No. 5 Aqua Resort Club will square off with No. 12 Pepsi at 7pm. In the second match, No. 6 TBK Auto will challenge

No. 11 Pacific Islands Club. Winners of the first two playoff games will join Micronesian Brokers, Inc., Saipan World Resort/Advance, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, and Mobil Oil to the next round, while losers will go to the showers.

Pepsi took the last spot in the playoffs after a 105-103 overtime victory over Shirley's Coffee Shop last Friday. Pepsi finished the round-robin regular season with a 4-10 record and beat Saipan Grand Hotel/Docomo in the tiebreak due to technicalities, according to league organizers.

Aqua Resort Club dropped to No. 5

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26

McGraw-Hill's Marlon Cabrera beats two AON players for the rebound during the last game of the regular season in the Shirley's caging at the JP Center Basketball Court on Saturday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

